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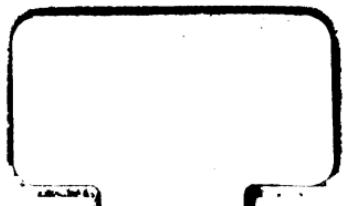
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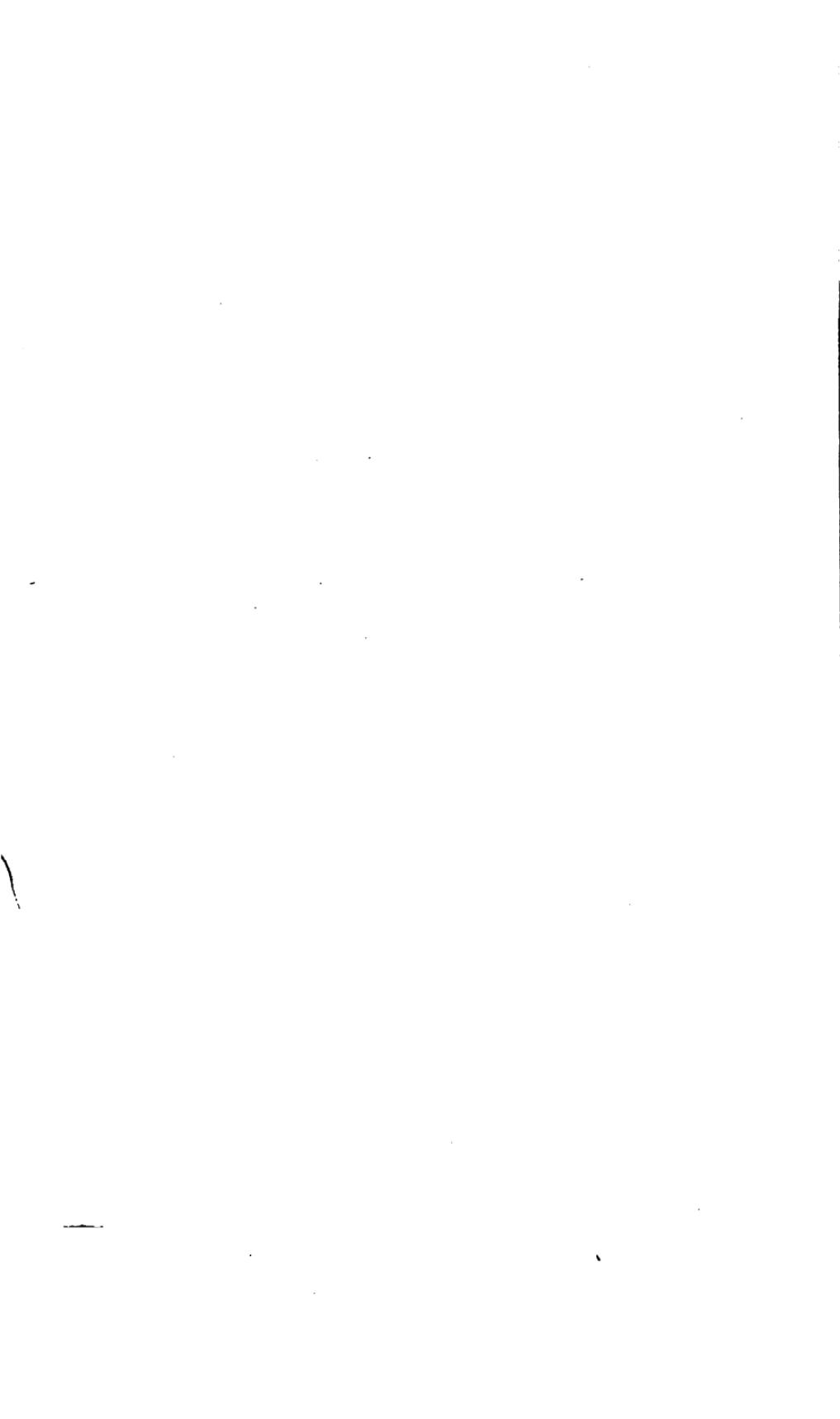
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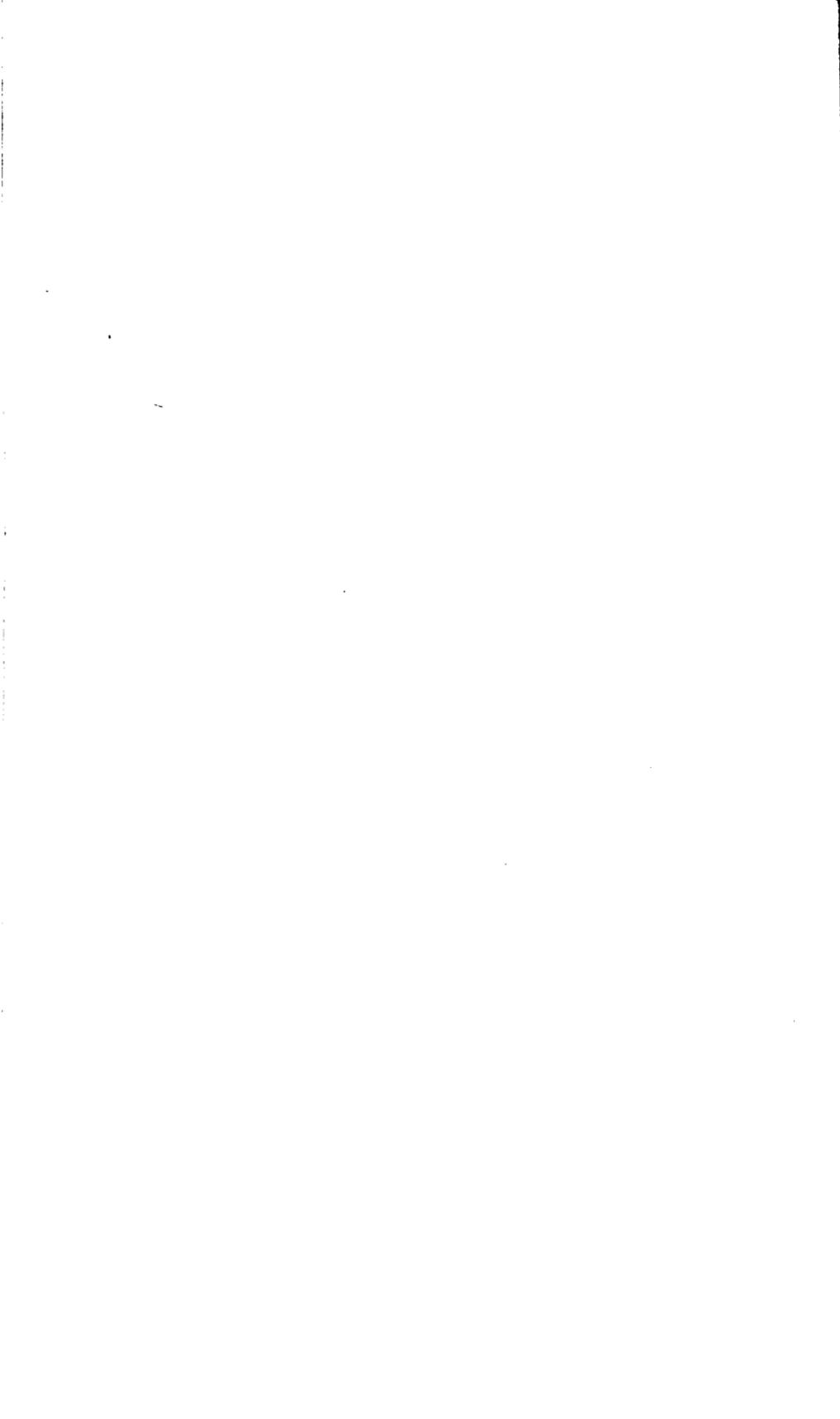
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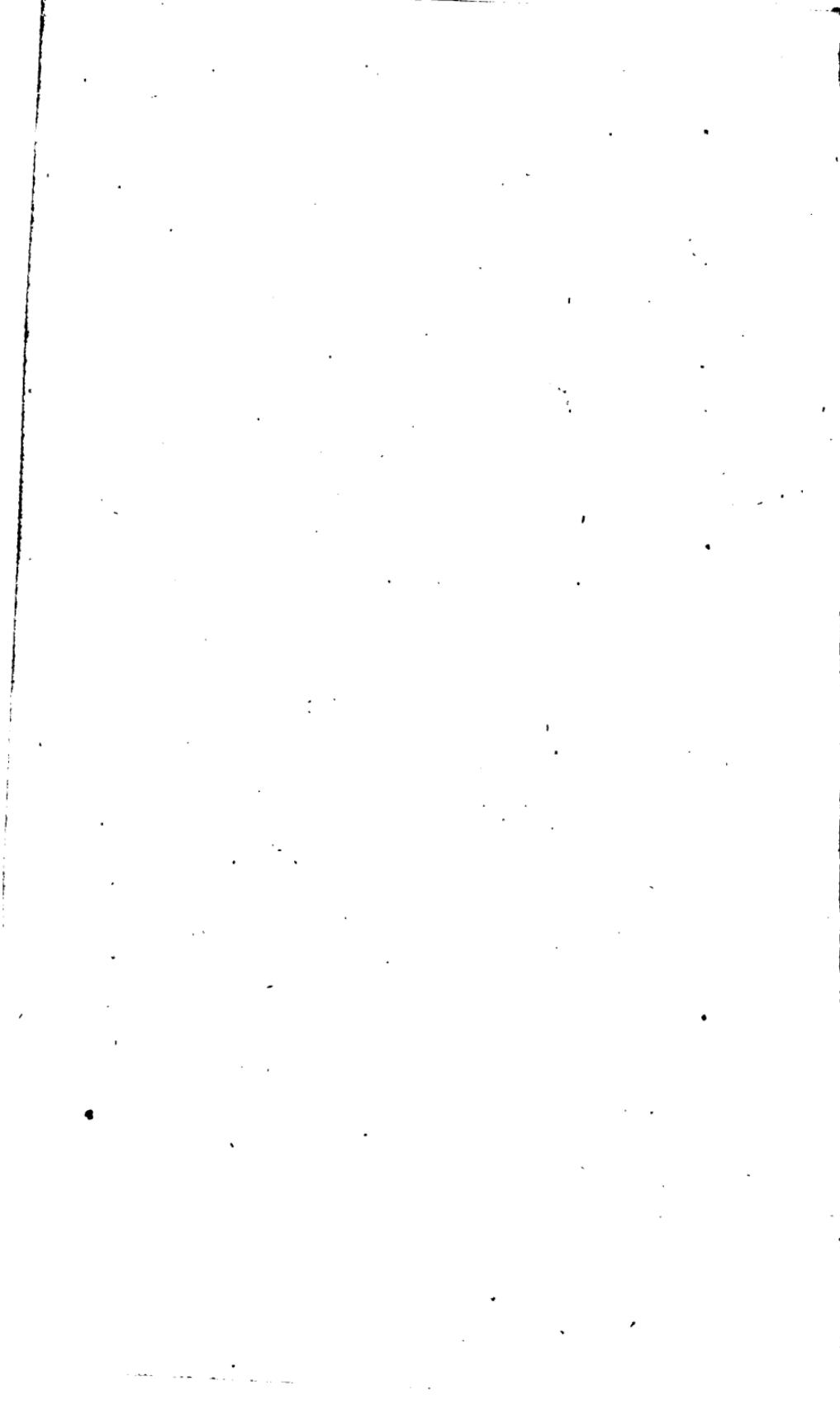




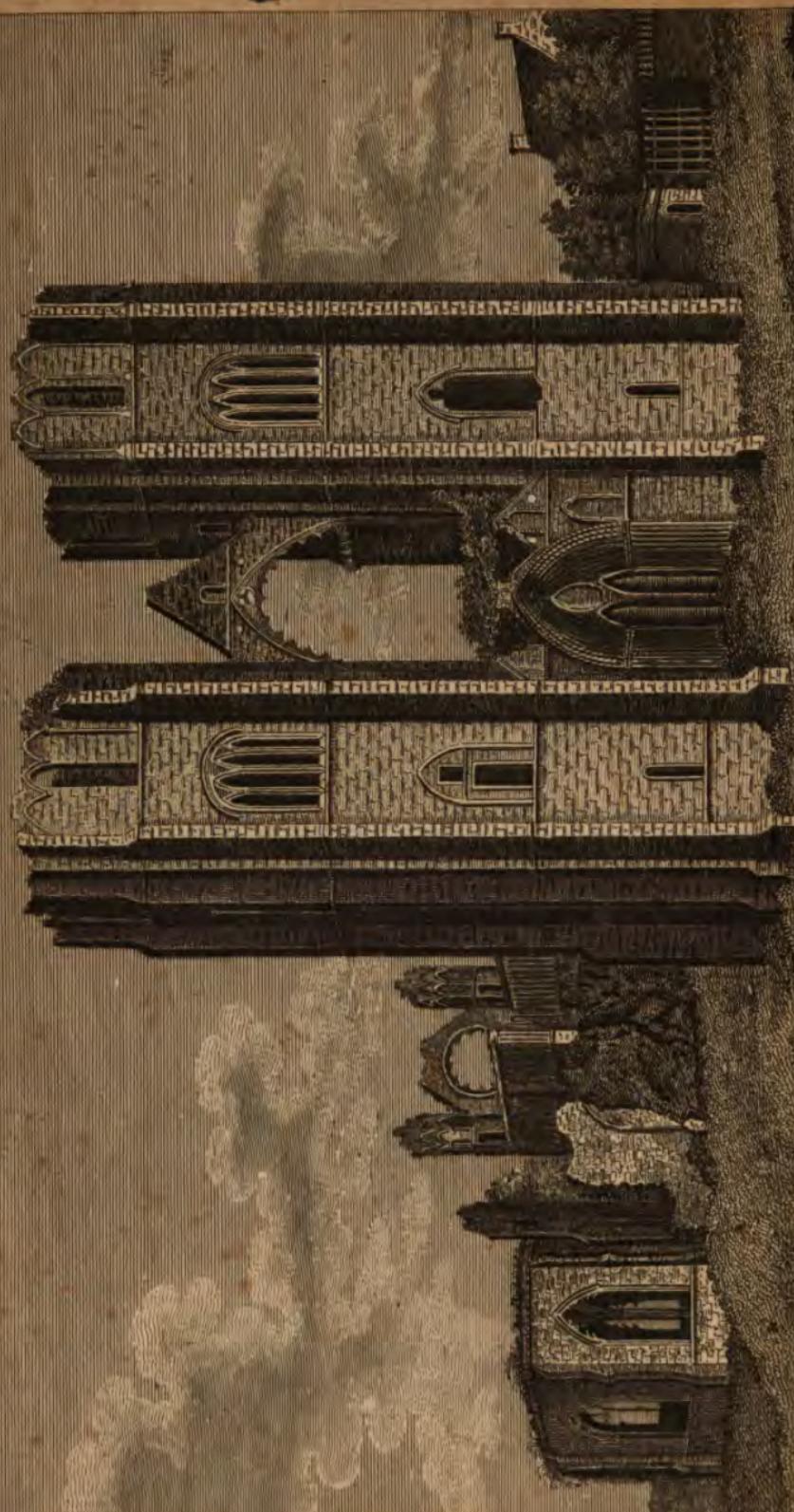


CR
(Moray)

57







S U R V E Y
OF THE
PROVINCE OF MORAY;

HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL, AND POLITICAL.

"Mihi quidem nulli eruditii videntur quibus nostra ignota sunt."

CICERO.

by J. Grant & W. Leslie

ABERDEEN:

PRINTED FOR ISAAC FORSYTH, BOOKSELLER, ELGIN.

MDCCCXVII.

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WITH sentiments of the highest respect, the Publisher is solicitous to express his acknowledgments to his Friends for the extensive patronage he has experienced in this undertaking. He hopes that, on his part, no requisite expence or care has been withheld to render this the most complete and the cheapest topographical history of any province in the island. Much diligence in research, and the greatest caution in admitting any thing as fact, have been used in its execution.

For the very handsome manner in which the two first chapters were furnished by the Revd. Mr. Grant of Elgin, and the other two by the Revd. Mr. Leslie of Darkland, he offers this testimony of his grateful remembrance.

Nor can he omit expressing his sense of obligation to Mr. William Millar, Engineer of the Sutherland Coal Work, for the most accurate Map of the Province of Moray ever offered to public notice. His View of the Elgin Cathedral does him the highest honour, being the most correct and striking yet exhibited of that magnificent ruin.

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P R E F A C E.

THE following Account of the Province of Moray is respectfully, presented to the Public. The limited nature of the work prevents a diffuse and detailed information of particulars, many of which are indeed of no importance beyond the circle of a narrow country.

In the two first chapters, it was the Editor's wish to give authentic relations, without being a dupe to tradition, or giving implicit credit to the tales of former ages. With this view, he has drawn information from the purest sources and best vouchers within his reach. *Ptolemy of Alexandria*, *Richard of Cirencester*, and the *discoveries* that modern research has made on the face of the country, have been consulted. The *Chartulary of Moray*, *Fordun*, *John Ferrerius*' MSS. History of the Abbey of Kinloss and Abbots, *Sir James* and *Sir David Dalrymple*'s works, have been of avail, as has *Sir William Jones*'s. Had access to original *charters* been more extensive, the history of families would have been more particular and accurate.

Mr. Shaw's account of families is in general adopted, where it appears he had examined their charters. As to others, many alterations and additions have been made, when supported by original writings and genuine history. These are the only vouchers that are to be depended on, and not oral tradition, which is uncertain among any people, but is so in an uncommon degree, if they are unsettled, turbulent, and illiterate.

Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty, in the true spirit of *Rabelais*, his favourite author, has exposed and condemned this

this futile rage for traditional genealogy, in his pedigree and lineal descent of the family of Urquhart of Cromarty from Adam to 1652. In the way of genuine burlesque, he gives names, marriages, and dates, with the same precision as if the records of their historiographers had been preserved pure and incorrupt.

To the various authorities for the two last chapters which were enumerated in the printed proposals, namely, the ancient and modern historians of the kingdom, the numerous publications of intelligent travellers, and the Statistical Account of Scotland, many direct particular communications have been moreover procured from gentlemen in various quarters of the country. These have been bestowed with the most handsome liberality, and with the highest respect they are acknowledged by the Editor, who, having no partialities to gratify, seeks only to avoid misrepresentation, and neither to hurt the feelings of any person, nor provoke resentment in any quarter.

The reader is to give attention to the corrections and additions printed at the end of this work, as they illustrate and confirm many particulars.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
PROVINCE OF MORAY.

CHAP. I.

THE INHABITANTS OF THE PROVINCE OF MORAY.

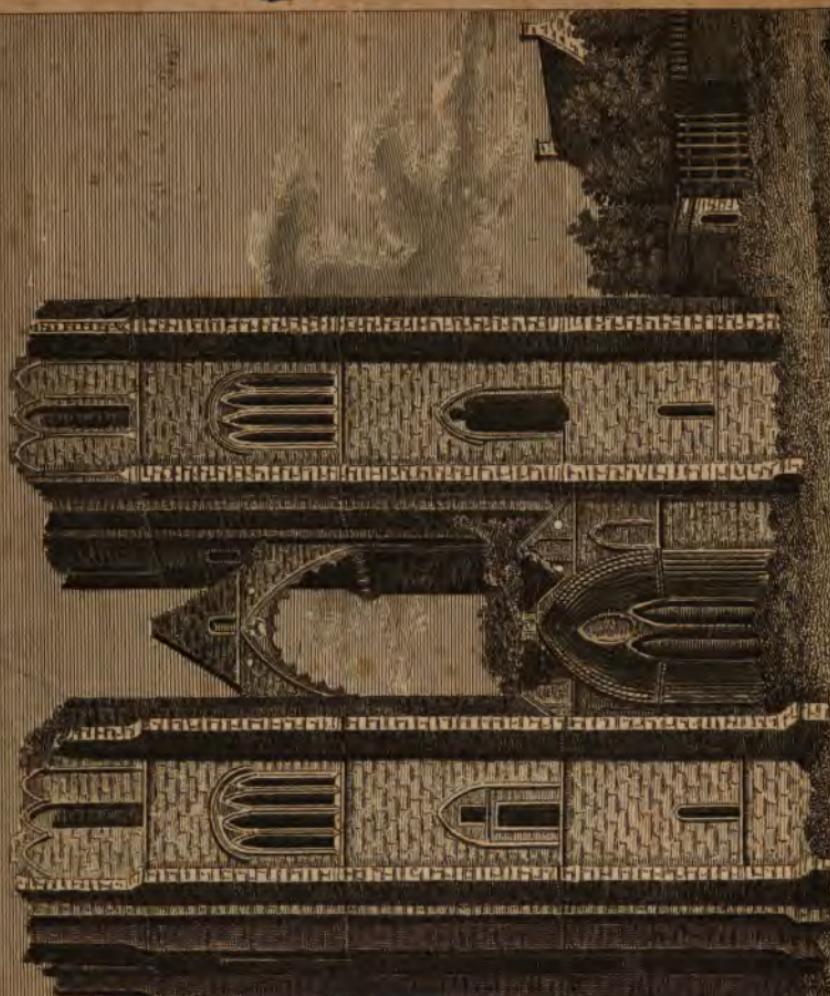
THE ancient natives of Britain came originally from the east; and were descended of a people who had made distinguished progress in the arts and sciences, in agriculture, and the other occupations of civil life. In time, they were reduced to a state denominated barbarous, and became a people whose history only becomes an object as connected with that of the present inhabitants, a powerful and polished nation.

We are interested in the early accounts of them, and wish to be informed of their origin, their manners, their mode of government, their internal revolutions, with their various gradations from ~~accidental~~ wildness to modern cultivation.

Our progress in this research must be imperfect, as the ancient history of the island is involved in great obscurity, and, after all our industry, will remain highly uncertain.

The wandering tribes and barbarous clans who occupied the country in these remote times gave little attention to their own history, and had few advantages for preserving accounts of their state and actions. This limits the knowledge of the Aborigines of our country in early periods to a few facts, conveyed to us, through the medium of foreign language and manners, from a lettered people, who, by trade or conquest, had acquired some acquaintance with them; or to conjecture and reasoning, founded on a few public monuments, with remains of their language, and some ancient usages that were observed, until history became established on positive evidence.

The conjectural part of our history is highly uncertain, if not, in many particulars, fabulous. Before the use of letters, neither the names nor the actions of men could be preserved little more than



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Tacitus informs us, that in the age of Agricola our island was inhabited by the people of *Caledonia*, the *Silures* and *Cumbri*. He estimated the Caledonians to be of German extraction, from their appearance and size; the Silures, he judged, came from Spain, and therefore were Iberians and Phoenicians, and that the Cumbrians were of Gallic extract, from their similarity in language and religious institutions. The Caledonians probably spoke one of the Gothic dialects mingled with the language of the *Celtæ*, who retreated northward on the irruption of the *Belgæ* and Romans, and relinquishing their *Sylva Caledonia*, on the banks of the Thames, preserved that name in Caledonia, afterwards Scotland.

The united body of these *Celtæ* and the Scandinavian colonies formed that nation afterwards called *Picti* by the Romans. The Cumbrians spoke a dialect of the Celtic and Gothic languages, and were those *Celtæ*, *Belgæ*, *Picti*, and other Britons, who, after the Saxon invasion, occupied the western coast, from Antoninus's Wall to Land's-end.

Bede, who died in 735, informs us, that in his age there were five languages used in Britain: the *Saxon*, *British*, *Scottish*, *Pictish*, and *Roman*. The Saxon and Pictish were dialects of the Gothic, being spoken by people of the same origin. The British language was composed of the Celtic and Gothic dialects, introduced by the *Belgæ*. The Scottish was partly Celtic and partly Irish; the Scots and Irish being one and the same people. When the Romans conquered a nation, they introduced their language among them; but before Bede's time it had ceased to be in common use in this island, and was only adopted in religious services, and as a learned language.

From the intercourse between these races of men, and the confusion of language that must necessarily arise, we cannot imagine, that their language could be preserved pure and unmixed to modern times. A medley would be formed, that makes it now difficult, if not impossible, to define with accuracy and precision the boundaries between these different languages, and decidedly say to which of them innumerable words, both ancient and modern, belong.

This proves how fundamentally many fail in their etymological enquiries. In this there is a fashion, as in other branches of research. It is the mode with many at present, to derive all the names

names of places in Scotland from the *modern Gaetic*, a mass of Gothic, British, Celtic, and Iberish words, yet dignified with the character of *antient Celtic*. There can be no doubt that many of these can be derived from no other source; but this cannot with propriety be universally done. This puts one in mind of the ancient Greeks, who adopted a similar plan, which created the utmost confusion in history, and, instead of truth, made it a tissue of fable. That the Erse is a dialect, in general, of the Celtic combined with the Iberish, admits of no doubt; but it is a dialect abounding with innumerable Gothic words. Besides, from the lapse of time, and the want of written standards, it must materially vary from what it originally was when these names were appropriated. We should never make use of a language which is modern or comparatively modern, to deduce the etymology of ancient words: more particularly as the moderns, in general, implicitly copy the ancients in being guided by the ear, which renders all their conceptions on that subject precarious and uncertain, as appears in etymologists so widely differing from each other.

This appears to be a probable account of the ancient inhabitants of Britain: The Celts and Belgæ from Gaul; the Scythians or Goths from Germany, who in time were called Caledonians and Piets, with Phœnicians and Iberians from Ireland: besides these, in more modern times, many straggling colonies came into Scotland from Denmark, Norway, and Ireland. Among these were the Scots, who, originally possessing a small part of the island in Argyle, gradually spread abroad. At length they conquered the Piets and Cumbrians; and as the Angles gave their name to England, so they imposed the name of Scotland on the other part of the island.

There has been much ingenuity, not a little learning, with a considerable share of acrimony employed by the Irish and Scots, in determining the original of the latter, and the rise of the appellation. It appears highly probable, that they both at first were one and the same people, as the north of Ireland might have been partially colonized from the neighbouring parts of Caledonia. This circumstance, and their vicinity, would keep up frequent communications between both islands, and a frequent interchange of colonies. At length, two or three centuries after the Christian æra, a colony from Ireland, under *Fergus*, or *Riada*, or some other unknown

known leader, was established in Caledonia, and the appellation *Scots* first used within Britain. Bede, who lived at no great distance of time from that period, fixes this colony on the northern banks of the Clyde. They gradually pushed their conquests on the western shores, till they reached Caithness; and in time all to the north of the river Forth was called *Scotland*, and the Firth of Forth was named *Mare Scoticum*. The Picts or Caledonians occupied the eastern shores and low countries. This distinction between the boundaries of the Picts and Scots was preserved long in even the province of *Moray*. It can be traced in the names and hills throughout the whole of the province.

Among the charters of Dunbar of Grange, there is one granted in 1221 by King Alexander II. to the Abbacy of Kinlofs, of the lands of Burgy, in which a boundary is, *Rune Pictorum*, the *Picts' Cairn*. In another charter from Richard, bishop of Moray, after the year 1187, to the same abbacy, is mentioned, *Scoticum molen-dinum*; and to this day, a road from the highlands to the low districts of the province is called the *Scots Road*. It is through the hills to the east of Dollars.

After a variety of fortune and much bloodshed, the *Scots*, *Picts*, and *Caledonians*, in the 9th century, united themselves under one sovereign, and took the single name of *Scots*, though that of *Picts* also remained in some parts of the kingdom many years after this.

It is difficult to give a satisfactory account of the origin of the appellation *Scots*. Probability leads us to judge, that *Scot* and *Scythi* are the same names, and that *Scotz* was afterwards applied to them as a term of reproach, on account of their plundering and rapacious manners. One particular is certain, that it was imported from Ireland, which was the antient *Scotia*, and its inhabitants were called *Scots* after the year 1400.

Tradition is silent with regard to the time when the first colonies came into the north of Scotland from Scandinavia and Germany. We learn from Claudian, that the Saxons were in the Orkneys before the year 390, and the Picts in *Thule*, by which he means the north of Scotland. Tafous informs us, that about 927 the Norwegians, under the command of Sigind earl of Orkney, conquered *Moray*, where probably they built *Elgin*. At that period, or rather before it, the Picts occupied a Roman station on the Moray Firth called *Pictotan*, which they named the *Burgh*, and

and established themselves under its protection in great numbers, as appears by the ruins of houses that extend along the seashore to the east almost two miles. This, and more ancient colonies of the same people, mingling with the British; impelled northwards by the invasions of the Belgæ, Iberians, Romans, and Saxons, peopled the province of *Moray*.

We are entirely ignorant of their internal state and partial revolutions; but we have every reason to believe, that they were a ~~necessitous~~, turbulent, unsettled people. This is confirmed by their killing King Malcolm I. at *Ulrin*, which, by the chartulary of *Moray*, is the Castle of *Forres*. They also murdered King *Duffus* at *Forres* about 966, when he came to punish them for their crimes. They rebelled in the reign of *Malcolm IV.* who, about 1160, led an army against them. They submitted; but, to break their future licentiousness, in 1161 he transplanted all those engaged in the insurrection into the other counties of Scotland, from *Caithness* to *Galloway*.

In conformity to the practice sometime before introduced into Scotland, of surnames being taken from names of places, their general surname was *Murref*, after their country; but many altered this into that of the place where they were established. Those called *Sutherland*, Earls of *Sutherland*, were originally *Murrefs*, as appears from a protection granted by *Edward*, king of England, to *William de Murref*, son of the Earl of *Sutherland*. It is dated 28th Jan. 1367. The first of the family of *Sutherland* in record is *Hugo Freskyn*, between 1186 and 1214. When this transportation of the inhabitants of *Moray* took place, it is highly probable, that the King granted their lands to others, who founded new families, of whom many of the present inhabitants are descended.

Malcolm III. and his successors received with open arms many exiles and discontented persons of rank from England, of Saxon and Norman extraction: they also received adventurers from the Continent: so that imperceptibly the greatest part of the property in Scotland belonged to these strangers. At this day, most of the nobility of Scotland, and many commoners of ancient families, are of their blood.

At this period it was, probably, that the *Roses of Kilravock* came from England, and received their land within the province: their being commonly called *Barons of Kilravock*, an English title, supports the conjecture.

The *Innes's of Innes*, it is likely, were established at the same time. The founder of that family is named in the charter granted by Malcolm IV. about 1160, *Beroaldus Flandriensis*; or *Beroald the Flandrian*. Beroald is a name common in the Low Countries, but unknown in Scotland.

It may throw some light on the ancient inhabitants of the province, and aid in distinguishing what race they were descended of, to mention the names of persons as formerly used. Before the reign of Malcolm Canmore, all is darkness in the history of Scotland, at large; and still less can we expect any authentic documents of what regards the province of Moray. The most ancient one is the chartulary of Moray: it contains a series of charters from about the 1200 to 1529, in which a variety of names are mentioned, of Pictish, Saxon, Irish, and Low Country origin. The names are numerous, some local, some patronymics, some from occupation, and others from causes now inexplicable. The modern practice of *clan names* does not appear to have prevailed in any great degree in these days; but afterwards, many people uniting for their joint defence, assumed the name of their common chieftain, or of the most powerful body of the association. Unentertaining as it may be, it is proper to mention some of the names in the chartulary and other charters in these different periods.

From the 1200 to the 1400—Bricius Malcolm, Robert Gilmakel, Macbeth, Patrick, Gillefbred, Walter, Stephen, Symon, all clergymen, with the names of their livings annexed; Hughson of Freskyn, Walter of Moray, William de Rist, William Agnus (Lamb) Malice, Archibald Lambert, Gillemere, John de Hedon, Morgund Ranold, Gillemallovock Macknakingelle, Sythak Mackmallon, Robert Hado, Archibald de Dufphus miles, Hugh Douglaſs, Augustine of Elgin, William Wiseman, Walter Innes, Adam Gurmund miles, Gyllimaked Macgillipatrick, Gilcrist Grathack, Marynius, Sumerlet of Bucharyn, John Byseth, William Stephen, Hugh Corbet, Wadyn Gamell, Hutyng Marshall, John Prat, Thomas Syband, Hugh Lormac, Gilmalnoc MacThomas, Regunald de Chin, MacCrather Macquoine, Duncan Fraſer, John Corbeth, Robert de Joniſton, Dugal, Alexander Black, John Cambron, Malcungy Mallinack, Macbeth, Macferchar, Walter Crawford, Murin, William Noreys, William de Fenton, Dominus Barth, Flamang, Laurence and Robert Grant, Thomas Man, Bredan son of Fergus, Martin More, Maldowney Beg, Maldowney MacMartin, Bredan Breach, Martin

Martin McColy, Donymore, Michael Mulswayn, Maldowney Mac-Robe, Colin MacGilbride, Alexander Menerys, John de Forbes, Michael Schapmar, William Vaus, Henry Portar, Falconar, Husband, Muil, Wood, Orlet, Elias Sister, John de Killour, Thomas Rolland, Thoinas de Dalton, John Tullois, John Bully, James Sutter, Walter Thorald, Fauconere of Lethinbar, Ross, Vylgus, William Pope, William Soreys, Henery Scypard, Robert Mykel, Malin, Glaud, Hugh Grene, Lulack McIman, John Scott, William Walkere, Stephen Skinner, Alexander Iryapins, William Tavernire, John Gray, Adam Flemynge, Thomas Urchard, John Sibbald, William de Dun, Christian McKinnach Gartned, Robert Curry, Donald Rogerston, Ninynus de Achors, Eva Murtach, Muriel Pollock, Morgund, Alexander Chisholm, Hugh Fraser de Loveth.

From the 1400—Fotheringhams, Dunbars, Gordons, Winchesters, Stewarts, Cummings, Carrowe, Clerk, Hill, Tait, Quorsque, Wilson, Ogilvie, Flemynge, Duffs, &c. are the most numerous names. After the 1529, there are no accounts of any great change of the inhabitants or names, but what might naturally happen during the lapse of years, from the change of property, and the rise and fall of different families and names.

After this general account of the inhabitants of the province, a short detail is to be given of the principal families, beginning with those nobilitated, according to their antiquity in Moray: but previous to considering those vested with modern titles, it may not be improper to inquire into the import and dignity of *Thane*, which was the appellation of persons of rank and consequence in Scotland before the days of Malcolm III. They were the nobility and gentry of those days, and the title long remained after those of Earl and Baron were introduced by Malcolm Canmore, who began to reign in 1057. There were many Thanes in Ross and the other counties in Scotland in the reign of William the Lion: they existed in the province of Moray till about 1500.

Scotland was divided into *thanedoms*, and the title was originally borrowed from the Danes or Norwegians, and the Saxons in England. It signifies the *King's Minister*. There is great uncertainty as to their privileges and rank, as these can only be learned by record, and few records remain of these ancient days. It appears by the *Regiam Magistatem*, that the *marchet* of the daughter of a Thane was two cows, or twelve shillings; but that of an Earl's

Earl's daughter was twelve cows ; and that of a freeman's daughter, not lord of the village, one cow. This *Marcheta Mulierum* was a covenant between the lord and the villain, when his unmarried daughter was debauched ; or also, when the soke-man or villain obtained his lord's permission to marry his daughter : he paid an acknowledgment, or fine, when he did it without permission. The *Cro* of an Earl was 140 cows ; of an Earl's son, and a Thane, was 100 cows ; and that of a husbandman, was 16 cows. At this period, therefore, there was a middle rank between the nobility and freemen.

This is also confirmed by an assize, mentioned in the chartulary of Moray, of William the Lion, at Perth, in which the rank is Bishops, Abbots, Earls, Barons, Thanes, and all the Community. In the same chartulary, there is a charter of Alexander II. about 1232, where *Thani Regis* and *Firmarii*, or King's Thanes and Tenants, are classed together, whose lands might be changed as he pleased.

The same King had also rents paid him by his *feodi firmarii*, in Moythas, Brothyn, and Dyke, which were thanedoms. In a submission between Andrew, Bishop of Moray, and Hugh Rose, Baron of Kilravock, in 1492, wrote in Latin ; among the arbiters are William Calder of Calder and John Brodie of Brodie. In this deed they are promiscuously called *Thane*, or *de eodem*, of that ilk ; but in the decree arbitral, wrote in English, the designation is *Thani*. From this it appears, that Thane, or Gentleman, the head of the name, are the same.

The thanedoms, or grants of land, were probably at first during pleasure ; then, for a certain number of years ; and at length, were for life, and hereditary. About the 1200, there were several Thanes of different families, in a short space of time, over a thanedom in the Mearns, now a part of the estate of Arbuthnot.

They conducted their followers to the field, as it was an essential part of their dress, to go abroad with a spear in their hands. It appears by the laws of King David, that Thanes held of the King and also of Earls ; as Thanes of both descriptions were subjected to certain penalties, if they were absent from the loyal army ; and are distinguished from *Barons* and *Milites*.

They no doubt paid out of their lands a certain yearly revenue in kind, to those from whom they had their grants. It is uncertain

tain what jurisdiction they had in their domains, or if they appeared before the King's or Earl's judges. By an order of William the Lion, when the *Villanus* or *Rusticus* refuses to pay tithes, his *Thane*, or *Dominus*, if he has a *Dominus*, shall seize them from him; but if the Thane or Lord neglect this, then the *Vice-Comes*, or Sheriff, and failing him, the King's *Justiciar*, shall seize the tithes, and the penalty for neglect of payment.

A thanedom was less than a sheriffdom or county, as there were several thanedoms in Moray. In Banffshire, there were also many of them, as the thanedom of the Boyne, of Conwath, of Aberkir-dor, Nathdole, &c. And in the foundation charter of the bishop-prick of Aberdeen by Malcolm IV. he endows it, among other revenues, with the tithes of his thanages in the counties of Aberdeen and Banff.

In the province of Moray, there was the thanedom of *Moray*, that included the lands of Ligate, Newton, and Ardgaoith. There was the Thane of *Brodie*, the ancestor of that family; the lands of *Moithes*, or *Moyness*, were also a thanedom in 1295. John de Dolais was Thane of Cromdale in 1367. *Calders* were Thanes of *Calder*, so low as the 1500. *Moray* was early an earldom; but there being no records extant of that line, and history also imperfect, nothing decisive, beyond conjecture, can be determined about its nature; as it existed before the æra of genuine history.

Fordoun mentions, that Angus, Earl of Moray, was slain by the Scots at Stricathrow, about 1131; and Selden informs us, that in 1171 William the Lion promised to grant the earldom of Moray to Mor-gund, son of Gillocherus, Earl of Man.

The same King also appointed Malcolm, Earl of Fife, *Custos* of Moray; and after him, William Cumyn, Earl of Buchan, and *Justiciar* of Scotland, was also *Custos*.

There are no accounts of any others to be depended on, until about 1314, when King Robert Bruce erected his lands in Moray into a earldom, and bestowed it on his nephew, *Thomas Randolph*, whom Pitscottie calls chief of the *Clan-Allan*.

The boundaries of this earldom were extensive; beginning at where the river Spey falls into the sea, and including all the territory to the north of that river, to the sea shore; as also the lands of Fochabers and Boharm, on the east; and they follow its bed to the stratches of Badenach: they include the lands of Kyncardyn and

Glencairn, Badenach, Maymez, Locharkedh, Glengary and Glenelg, to the west sea; and along the sea shore, to the north-west boundaries of Argyle; and then to those of the earldom of Ross, till they reach the river of Forne, or Farar, and the east sea.

The charter of erection is extant, and throws great light on the nature of ancient peerages. At that period, the grant of the dignified fee conferred the dignity; and, in particular, the grant of the *comitatus*, or earldom, conferred the title *Comes*, or *Earl*. The title of honour was inseparably connected with the territory; so that one divested of the estate of the earldom ceased to enjoy the dignity. The lands not formerly an earldom, but only the King's lands, in Moray, are erected into a *comitatus*; and Thomas Randolph, not formerly an Earl, but *Miles*, upon the grant of the *comitatus* to him, is called *Comes*, or *Earl*. This Earl died in 1331, and was succeeded by his son, *Thomas*, who fell in the battle of Dupplin, 1332. His brother, *John*, succeeded him, who was killed in the battle of Durham, 1346. Had not the earldom been limited in the original charter to heirs male, Patrick Dunbar, Earl of March, in right of his wife Agnes, daughter of the first Earl Thomas, would have succeeded to the estate and earldom; for female succession to land estates, and titles of honour, was established in the usage and law of Scotland, as far back as records and history reach. Before the 1214, the title and earldom went to heirs general: in this they resembled the laws and practice of England, which originated from the education of the Kings of Scotland in that country; and most of the nobility, and many of their ministers, were English. Even jurisdiction descended to females, as during the non-age of the female heir, the Sovereign held possession, by right of ward, and then he provided her with an husband: but if after non-age she was unmarried, or if she became a widow, she could appoint a deputy, to officiate in her stead: and thus jurisdiction was, in every event, properly administered.

Notwithstanding the limitation in the charter, *Patrick Dunbar* was called *Comes Marchia et Moravia*, Earl of March and Moray; but *John*, his second son, was made Earl of Moray in 1372, with the exception of Badenach, Lochaber, and Urquhart. Upon the demise of *John*, *Thomas*, his son, succeeded; and on his death, without male issue, *James*, his nephew, succeeded, who left two daughters. The youngest of them, *Elizabeth*, married *Archibald Douglas*,

Douglas, brother to the Earl of Douglas. From the influence of the Douglasses, he was made Earl of Moray in 1446: but, joining in his brother's rebellion in 1452, was killed in 1455; and the earldom, now forfeited, was annexed to the Crown. In 1501 James IV. granted the earldom of Moray to his bastard son *James Stewart*, who died in 1544. It again reverted to the Crown, and Queen Mary, in 1548 bestowed it on *George, Earl of Huntly*. He was deprived of it in 1554. In 1562 it was bestowed on *James*, bastard son of James V. Prior of St. Andrews, and afterwards Regent; of whom the present *Earls of Moray* are descended.

There is some intricacy in the grants of the family of Moray. On 7th February 1561-2, the Prior of St. Andrews received the grant of the earldom of Moray. On 22d January 1563-4, he obtained from Queen Mary another charter of the earldom, limited to himself and his heirs male, whom failing, to return to the Crown.

In June 1566, this Earl of Moray obtained another charter from Queen Mary and her husband Henry, to himself and his heirs general. In 1567 he obtained a ratification in Parliament of the charter 1563, limiting the earldom to himself and his heirs male, but without mention of the intermediate charter of 1566. He was slain 1570-1. On the footing of the charters 1562 and 1563, and of the ratification in Parliament in 1567, the estate and dignity reverted to the Crown, as the Regent had no heirs male of his body.

In 1580, James VI. gifted the ward and marriage of *Elizabeth* and Margaret, daughters and heiresses of the deceased Earl of Moray, to *James Stewart*, son and heir of James Stewart of Doun. A few days after, *James Stewart* married Lady *Elizabeth*, the eldest daughter, and assumed the title of Earl of Moray. As he could not be Earl of Moray in his own right, unless by the charter of 1566, which, from the future charters, would be rather a doubtful title, in 1592 James VI. and the Scots Parliament ratified to *James*, Earl of Moray, and son of James Stewart and Lady *Elizabeth*, Queen Mary's and her husband Henry's charter of 1st June 1566, and all other charters, to the Regent and his daughter *Elizabeth*.

This rendered the succession of the family of Moray inexplicable, as it confirmed the charter 1566, and all other charters. To rectify this, *James*, Earl of Moray, lost no time to obtain a charter of the earldom of Moray, limiting the succession to heirs male.

This Earl was murdered in 1592, and his son *James* succeeded,

who

who died in 1633, and was succeeded by his son *James*, who died, 1653. To him succeeded his son *Alexander*, who died in 1700; *James*, Lord *Doun*; the son of this *Alexander*, died before his father, and left two daughters; the eldest, *Elizabeth*, married *Brigadier-General Grant of Grant*, and the second married *Thomas Fraser of Strichen*: but, agreeable to the limitation of the estate and peerage to heirs male, *Charles*, next brother to Lord *Doun*, succeeded as Earl of *Moray*; and, dying without issue in 1735, was succeeded by his surviving brother, *Francis*, who died in 1739: his eldest son, *James*, succeeded him: he died in 1753, and was succeeded by the present Earl, *Francis*, his son, who in 1763 married *Miss Gray*, daughter of *Lord Gray*, and has issue, *Lord Doun*, married to *Miss Scott*, second daughter of General *Scott*. In 1796 this Earl was created a British Peer, under the title of *Lord Stewart of Castle-Stewart*.

The family of *Gordon* is ancient and noble, and has possessed very considerable property in this province since the reign of King Robert *Bruce*. It has been deeply concerned in many of the greatest and most important public transactions of the kingdom. Their original is probably from France, and came to England with *William the Conqueror*. The first account we hear of their establishment in Scotland is in the *Merse*, where they had the lands of *Gordun*, and probably were of the number of those refugees and foreign adventurers, whom *Malcolm Canmore* and his successors encouraged so much to establish themselves in their kingdom.

In the chartulary of *Kelso*, there are donations by *Adam de Gordun*, son of *Adam*—by *Richard de Gordun*—by his son, *Thomas senior*—by his son, *Thomas junior*—by his heirs and daughter *Alicia*, to the abbacy of *Kelso*. These donations are prior to 1270; and it is probable, that the donors were the ancestors of *Sir Adam Gordon*, who gallantly supported *Robert Bruce* against the *Cummins*, particularly at the battle of *Inverury*. In reward of his services, he had a grant of the 48 *davochs* in the lordship of *Strathbolgie*. They belonged at this period to one of the *Cummins*, as *Fordun* informs us, that *John Comyn*, *Dominus de Strathbolgie*, surrendered himself to *Edward I.* at *Forfar* in the 1296. In 1376 *Robert II.* renewed the grant to *Sir John Gordon*, son of *Sir Alexander*, son of *Sir Adam*. Prior to this last grant of *Strathbolgie*, *King David Bruce* had given the forest of *Enzie* and *Boyne* to that

Sir

Sir John Gordon, who was slain in the battle of Otterburn in 1388. His son, *Sir Adam*, was slain at Hamildun in 1401.

This *Sir Adam* left no issue but a daughter and heiress, *Elizabeth*, who married *Alexander Seton*, son of Sir William Seton of Winton. Of this marriage was *Alexander*, who in 1421 and 1439 is called *Alexander de Seton, dominus de Gordon*; and it was not till 1449, that the family resumed the surname of *Gordon*, when created Earl of Huntly.

Alexander, son and heir of *Elizabeth Gordon*, was thrice married. By his first wife he had no children. By his second, *Giles Hay*, daughter and heiress of John Hay of Tullibody, he had a son, *Alexander Seton de Gordon*. By his third wife, *Elizabeth Crichton*, daughter of William lord Crichton, he had a son, *George*. Upon the death of this *Alexander*, first Earl of Huntly, *George*, the son of the third marriage, succeeded to the estate and dignity of Huntly. *Alexander*, the eldest son, obtained only his mother's estate of Tullibody, Touch, &c.; and his descendants retain the name of Seton to this day.

This first Earl was of important service to James II. by defeating the Earl of Crawford in the battle of Brechin, 18th May 1452. For this he obtained the braes of Badenach and Lochaber, as before that he had the lordship of Badenoch, and castle of Ruthven. He died in 1479.

His son *George* succeeded him; who built Gordon-Castle. He left four sons: *Alexander*, his successor; *Adam of Aboyne*, who married the Countess of Sutherland; *William of Gight*; *James*, ancestor of Letterfurie. *Alexander*, Earl of Huntly, died in 1523, and was succeeded by a grandson, by his son *John*, named *George*, of boundless ambition and crafty policy.

He was chancellor of Scotland, and in 1549 was Earl of Moray, administrator of the earldoms of Mar and Orkney, and of the lordship of Shetland, and bailliery of Strathdee. In 1544 he was divested of these possessions, and lost his life in the battle of Corrichie in 1556. He was succeeded by his son *George*, whose son *George*, it is said, promoted the murder of the Earl of Moray, at Dunibrille, 1592; fought the battle of Glenlivat, 1594; was created *Marquis of Huntly*, 1599; and died, 1636. His son *George* succeeded him. This Marquis was Captain of the Scots guards, or Scots gens d'armes, in France, who at first were called, *the King of France his archers*, who

who attended his person, and were armed with bows and arrows. Charles VII. instituted them about 1445. Their first commander was Robert Patillock of Dundee. The sons of the Scottish monarchs were their usual Captains. Charles I. enjoyed the honours and emoluments. James VII. when Duke of York, enjoyed it till 1667, when he resigned his commission into the hands of the King of France; and since that time, no native of Great Britain has had it. This Marquis was beheaded by the Covenanters in 1649, and was succeeded by his son *Lewis*, who died in 1653, and, by a daughter of the Laird of Grant, was father of *George*, who was created a Duke, 1684. His son *Alexander* succeeded him in 1716, who was succeeded by his son *Cosmo George* in 1728, who was succeeded by his son, the present Duke, *Alexander*, in 1752; who was created a British Peer, July 3, 1784, under the title of *Earl of Norwich*, and Baron Gordon of Huntly in Gloucestershire. In 1767 he married Miss Maxwell, daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, by whom he has a numerous family. His eldest daughter, Lady Charlotte, is married to Colonel Lenox, nephew to the Duke of Richmond. His second daughter, Lady Magdalene, married Sir Robert Sinclair of Stevenson. His third daughter, Lady Susan, married the Duke of Manchester: and his fourth, Lady Louisa, Viscount Brome, son of Marquis Cornwallis. Lady Georgina is unmarried; his two sons are, the *Marquis of Huntly* and *Lord Alexander*.

The name of *Grant* is ancient, and the family respectable. Many accounts of it are in MSS. and printed; but they are in general legendary and fabulous, and unsupported either by history or charters. The following short account of the name and family may be depended on, so far as it goes, as supported by authentic vouchers.

The general tradition is, that they came from Norway at an early period. The different colonies that came to Scotland from that country give some countenance to this report; particularly as Rollo, who afterwards founded the dukedom of Normandy in France, on his emigration from Norway, first took refuge in the Hebrides and West Highlands, and some of his followers might have remained there. But this opinion is directly opposed by the earliest mode of writing the name, as appears from charters and records: this mode was, *le Graunt* sometimes, *de Graunt* or *Grant*, and the chief of the family signed his name, after the 1520, *John the*

the Grant of Fruchy. D and T being synonymous letters, it appears to be the French name *le Grand*.

They probably may be of Norwegian extraction, but came into England, with William the Conqueror, from Normandy, and from thence into Scotland. It is uncertain where their first establishment was, in Scotland. The earliest mention of the name is in an agreement, recorded in the chartulary of Moray, between Archibald, Bishop of Moray, and John Byseth, with regard to his lands of the Ard, to which *Domini Laurentius et Robertus Grant* are witnesses: it is dated 1228. This John was probably the father of Walter Byseth of Strathharkk, or Strathharic, mentioned in Rymer's *Fœdera*; and the presumption is, that these Grants resided in that part of the province of Moray, at that period.

In 1270 Henry III. of England gives a protection to *William le Graunt*, to go to the Crusades.

In 1288 *Peter le Graunt* signs, among others, an obligation of the King of Arragon to the Prince of Salerno.

In 1297 *John de Graunt* and *Rodulph de Graunt*, with many of the *Magnates Scotiæ*, are included in an order of Edward I. of England, to serve in war against France. They are discharged from prison on this condition, and were dependent on John Comyn, Lord of Badenoch, and David de Graham.

In 1302 Edward I. addresses letters to many in Ireland, to prepare with men and horses, for engaging in the Scots war, and amongst others to *William le Grant* and John Comyn.

In 1335 Edward III. of England grants a safe conduct to *John Graunt miles*, to come to, and return from London. Some of our historians say, that this John Graunt was Scots ambassador in France, and negotiated a treaty with that nation.

In 1363 Edward III. grants a safe conduct to *John de Graunt, de Scotia miles*, and to Elizabeth his wife, to come to England, and have ten persons, horsemen and footmen, in their retinue. At this period, many persons received such safe conducts, but with no such numerous retinue to any, but to Robert de Eſkyne miles.

In 1366 Edward III. grants a safe conduct to *John Grant miles de Scotia*, with six horsemen. In 1380 the chartulary of Moray informs us, that A. Stewart, Lord of Badenoch, holds his court at Kingusy, and among others that attended is *Malcolme le Graunt*.

In 1385 forty francs, or livres tournois, are given to *Robert le Graunt*,

Graunt, Esquier. They are part of 40,000, sent from France, to be distributed among the Scots nobility.

In 1394, in a bond of manrent between Thomas Dunbar, Earl of Moray, and Alexander, Lord of Lochaber, Malcolm *de Graunt* had a twenty mark land, probably in Strathheric, as appears from the chattulary of Moray.

In 1417 *Peter le Graunt Cappellanus* is included in a protection to the clergy of Normandy, from Henry V. of England.

In 1415 *Simeon le Graunt*, curate of the church of Croiffy, is mentioned in a protection to part of Normandy, by Henry V. of England.

In 1420 the King of England secures their property to many in Normandy, who had swore fealty to him, and, amongst others, to *William le Graunt*.

In 1496 the community of Provins, and the neighbouring cities, ratify a peace between the Kings of France and England: many sign it, and, among others, *Johan Graunt dit Hannepon*.

All these facts, where the authority is not quoted, are extracted from Rymer's *Fœderæ*. Boethius mentions, that soon after 1424, *Henry Graunt* was one of the honourable persons, who attended Margaret, daughter of James I. of Scotland, into France, on her marriage with Lewis, son of Charles VII.

These detached facts prove, that the name of Grant was known in Spain, France, England, and Scotland; in which last country some of them had risen to consequence, as appears from the safe conducts and retinues allowed.

By this, rank and distinction were ascertained in these days. But these facts, being unconnected, give no regular information concerning individuals, or the heads of the family. However, this in some measure is supplied by a series of charters, in possession of the family of Grant, from the era of William the Lion, downwards.

In this series of writs, the first grant mentioned is, *Robert le Grawnt*, who obtains the lands of Cloumanachs or Culmony in Ardoch parish, from John Prat, who, by other charters, was a miles, and had Daltely in Moravia, or Daltulich. One of the witnesses to this charter was John Byset, and was granted about the 1268.

The next is *John le Grawnt*, who in 1346 is appointed by *John Randolph*,

Randolph, Earl of Moray, heritable keeper of the castle of Tarneway, and of his forest, beyond the bounds of his park: he also gets the lands of Dovely. It is dated at Elgin, and is given under the great seal of the Earl's chancery.

The next mentioned is *Patrick le Grawnt*, laird of Stratharthoc, who gives his dawoch of Kildreke and half dawoch of Glenbegis, in his lands of Inveralyan, to William, called Pilch, burges of Inverness, and his heirs by Margaret, daughter of Patrick, his wife, which failing, to return to Patrick and his heirs. By this deed it appears, that Patrick's father, who is not named, had been infest in Inveralyan. It is not dated; but Alexander, bishop of Rofs, is a witness, who came to that see about 1357, and was bishop in 1404.

In 1419 a noble woman, *Elizabeth ly Grant, Domina de Stratharach*, declares in a deed, that she had never given away these lands, but now does it to her dear son James Macintoche, and gives him all the title she ever had to them, in feu or heritably.

In 1464 an inquest at Inverness, of the most respectable gentlemen finds, that Gilbert of Glencharny, grandfather of *Duncan Graunt, miles*, died infest in the lands of Kunnyngais, and that the said Duncan is lawful heir of the said Gilbert.

King James II. grants an order, founded on an inquest of a jury, to infest *Duncan le Grant*, son and lawful heir of Matilda of Glencherny, in the fifth part of the barony of Rothes, Wiseman, and Burnemikity, in both the Fochabris, the half of Imenton, and two marks yearly out of the town of Thornhill. This order is said to have been granted, because the earldom of Moray was then in the hands of the Crown. It is dated the 29th year of our reign, which is 1488.

To discover who this heiress, Matilda of Glencharny, and her father Gilbert were, we are to look back; and among this series of charters, we find—

That William the Lion, after 1187, confirms the grant made by Gilleb. de Stradhern, to *Gilchrist* his son, of Kinnebethin and Glangarnen, to be held of the said Earl and his heirs, in feu or heritably.

The title of Earl of Strathern is among the most ancient in Scotland. It is thought to have originated in the reign of Malcolm III. Earl Fertith died in 1171. They were Strathers of Strathern; and the title continued in the family till the reign of Robert I.; when

Johana, the Countess, with her husband, the Earl of Warren in England, forfeited it, on account of a conspiracy to betray the kingdom to England. This grant of Gilleb. de Stradhern, *Comes*, to his son Gillecrist of Kinnebethin and Glancarnen, is also confirmed by Alexander II. between the 1222 and 1232, as appears by the witnessess.

This Gilcrist of Glencarnen, or Glennegerin, had a son, *Gilbert*, who married Margery, sister of John Prat, *miles*, as King Alexander III. confirms a grant made by John Prat, to Gilbert de Glenegeerin younger, and his wife and their children, of Daltely in Moray. It is about 1268, as Colban, Earl of Fife, is a witness, who died 1270.

This Gilbert had a son, Gilbert, who lived about the 1270, as Alan, *hostiarius Scotiæ*, who lived about this time, grants to *Dominus Gilberto de Glenkerny*, the half of his lands of Tullachfyn in Marr.

This Gilbert the second had a son, called *Gilbertus tertius, Dominus de Glenkerny, miles*, who, with consent of his wife Matilda in 1290, grants his lands of Gerbothy to Gilbert his eldest son.

This Gilbert the third gives to Duncan de Feryndrawth, as portion with his daughter and their heirs, the east davoch of Conynges in Aberythin. It is granted between 1281 and 1298.

Gilbert de Glencharny, probably the fourth, surrenders all the lands of his barony of Glencarny, into the hands of David II. who grants them again to Gilbert, and the heirs of his body, which failing, to Duncan Fraser and Cristiane his wife, sister to Gilbert. This is dated in the 33d year of his reign, about 1362.

In 1364 Hay of Tillybothvyll, sheriff of Inverness, issues a precept to M'Crather M'Yom, his macers and substitute, to infest Gilbert de Glenkerny, in Glenkerny.

In 1398 Gilbert of Glencherny, then lorde of Fochaberris, sells to a noble Lord and a mychty, Thomas of Dunbar, Erril of Murrer, the twa tounes of Fochaberris, for an hunder pund of sterlings of the usuall monay of Scotland.

In 1499 James IV. grants a precept of seafine to an honourable man, *John Grant of Freuchy*, on the lands of Glencharny and Balnadalauch, and allows infestment to be at Mulquaharde, *tanquam ad principale missuagium dictarum terrarum*. This John was probably son of Duncan, and appears to have had two sons, *James*,

his

his heir, and *Patrick*, who had the lands of Ballindalloch before the 1521, as appears by the family charters of Ballindalloch: as also, James Grant of Freuchie grants in 1536 an indenture to infest John Grant in Ballindalloch, within the lordship of Glencherny, which John was probably his nephew.

There is an order from King James, and signed James V. and sealed to Patrick, Bishop of Moray, to set in feu ferme to *James Grant of Freuchie*, the lands of the barony of Strathspey, not set in feu before. It is dated at St. Andrews in 1540, and addressed “To our w= lovit clerkes ye Dene and Cheptoure of Murray.”

James Grant of Freuchie was Baillie to Robert Reid, Abbot of Kinloss, and in 1544 constitutes his weil belufit and traist friend Alexander Cummyng of Alteir, his Baillie depute.

In 1553 there is an inquest at Inverness, before the most respectable gentlemen in the county, amongst whom is John Grant of Carroun; and it appears before them, that James Grant of Frewquhye, father of *John Grant of Mulbayne*, died infest in the lands of Frewquhye, Urquhart, Louchbrwin, half of Lochcarroune, Kessoryne, Lochqualsche, Morarand, Sleysmene; and that John Grant is nearest heir to the deceased James. From this deed it appears, that Lochalsche and Kessoryne formerly belonged to Eugenius Donaldson; that Lochcarroune, Lochbrwn, Sleysmene, and Morar, formerly belonged to Glengary, Alexander Macanne, McAlaster, which were held, *in capite*, for the usual service; but Urquhart, with the castle, were holden of our Queen in feu.

In 1571 *John Grant of Freuquhy* entered into a contract with Angus McAllaster of Glengarie, and it is agreed, that Donald Angus McAllaster is to marry Helen Grant, daughter of John. In this contract, there is a singular condition; that if there are no heirs male of the marriage, then, Angus pays 6000 merks to John Grant and his heirs; and if there is one daughter of the marriage, she is to have 1000 merks of tocher; if two daughters, 1200 merks to each; and if three, 600 merks to each: Angus also obliges himself to enter into a bond of manrent with John Grant, and his heirs and successors: and if Angus preserves this agreement, then John agrees to infest Glengarie, and his heirs male, in the lands of Glengarie, which John possesses by virtue of comprising and infestment: but if Glengarie fails in the bond of manrent, then the infestment

infestment falls to the ground, is cassat and annullat, as if never made. One of the witnesses is Patrick Grant of Dalweye.

In 1572 there is a bond of manrent between ryt. hole. men, John Grant of Freuchie and Colin McKenzie of Kintail, particularly to defend Colin against Heu Fraser of Lovat, his airs and kyne; and the said John against Lauchlan McKintosche of Dunactan.

It appears that this Colin was married to Barbara, daughter of John Grant, and obtained Lochbrowne with her; for it is agreed between them, in 1572, that if Colin McKenzie repudiates her, then John Grant and his heirs shall have ingress and egress to half the lands of Lochbrowne.

This John's eldest son, *Duncan*, died before him: for there is from King James, in 1582, a clare constat, that *Duncan apparen-* de Fruguh, father of John Grant, *lateris præsentium*, died infest and seized in the lands of Corremone, Morie, Mikles, Lochlettye, Auchinlomoraik, Dowcathe, and the half of Meikle Clune.

Some time after the 1582 there is an agreement between *John the Grant of Freuchy*, son of Duncan, and John Cummin of Ernished at Altre, for a marriage with John Cummin's apparent heir and son, with a daughter of John the Grant, who gives 100 merks with his daughter; and John Cummin gives 20 pounds worth of lands; and John the Grant gives 4½ merks worth of lands to them: these lands he gives are the fyve part of Sourastoun, half of Gerbothy, half lands of Cardny, and little Belnabroth. It is subscribed John the Grant of Fruchay, John Cuming of Ernished.

In 1593 there is a difcharge from King James to John Grant of Frewchie, of the pane and unlaw of 5000 marks incurrit by him, for his part, as one of the cautioners of George Earl of Huntly, for keeping quietness in the country, and dutiful obedience to us after the brig of Dee.

In 1597 there is a bond of manrent between John Grant of Freuchie, and Donald McAngus of Glengarie, much in terms of the former bond of this nature, which is referred to, as made between John Grant's grandfather and Donald's father. One of the witnesses is Mr. James Grant of Ardnelye; and Patrick Grant of Rothemorches is mentioned.

Shaw says, this John died in 1622, and was succeeded by his son Sir *John*; who, by Mary Ogilvie, daughter of Findlater, had eight

eight sons, viz. James, who succeeded him; Colonels John and Patrick, who had no male issue; nor had Alexander, nor George, governor of Dunbarton; but Mungo was ancestor to Knockando and Kinchirky; Robert of Muckirach's family is extinct; as are the heirs of Thomas of Bellimacaan. John died in 1637: and his son, *James*, died in 1663, and left two sons by Mary, daughter of the Earl of Moray; *Ludovick*, his heir, and Patrick of Wester Elchiss, whose male issue is extinct.

Ludovick married Janet Brodie, and died 1718. He was succeeded by his son, Brigadier *Alexander*, who died without issue in 1719, and was succeeded by his brother, Sir *James*, who had a numerous family by his wife, the heiress of Luss: they were Sir *Ludovick*, his heir, Sir *James* Colquhoun of Luss, General *Charles*, and *Francis*, a Captain in the Navy. His eldest daughter married *Duff* of Braco, afterwards Earl *Fife*; his next was married to Sir *Harry Innes* of Innes; another to Alexander Grant of Ballindaloch, her cousin german, by his mother *Anne*, sister of Sir *James*; another married Sir *William Dunbar* of Durn; and *Sophia* died unmarried.

Sir *Ludovick* died 1773, and his son, Sir *James*, succeeded him, who married *Jean Duff*, heiress of *Hatton*, his near relation, and has a numerous family.

An ancient Cadet of the family of Grant, is *Grant of Ballindaloch*. The ancestor was *Patrick*, probably son to *John Grant* of *Freuchie*, who had the lands of *Ballindaloch* before 1521, as then he purchased the lands of *Tullochcarron* from *Hugh Bron Lamb*, and is designed *Patrick Grant of Ballindaloch*.

In 1536 there is an indenture and obligation from *James Grant of Freuchie*, to infest *John Grant of Ballindaloch*, son of *Patrick*, in these lands lying within the lordship of *Glenchernick*. His son, *Patrick*, succeeded about 1553; whose son, *Patrick*, succeeded about 1595. His son, *John*, succeeded about 1619; who was succeeded by his son, *James*, about 1628. His son, *John*, succeeded about 1649, who was succeeded by his son, *John*, about 1680; who died after 1721.

Brigadier *Grant* of *Grant* bought this estate about 1704, and sold it, about 1711, to *Colonel William Grant*, a son of the family of *Rothiemurchus*, who had married *Anne*, the Brigadier's sister. He had two sons. *Alexander* succeeded him; and by his wife, *Penuel*, daughter of *Sir James Grant of Grant*, had a son, *William*, who

who succeeded him; but dying without issue, in 1770, was succeeded by *General James Grant*, the Colonel's other son. General Grant entered into the army in early life, and was employed in various important military services. He was Governor of Florida; he defeated Count D'Estaing with an inferior force; and conquered St. Lucia, in 1779: he has now the eleventh regiment of foot, and is Governor of Stirling Castle. During his occasional residence in the country, he has made material improvements on his estate, by cultivating moors, and dressing his other fields, agreeably to the most approved methods of modern agriculture.

The ancestor of Rothiemurchus was *Patrick*, son of John Grant of Freuchie, who, about 1590, received the lands of Muckerach as his appendage, and exchanged them for Rothiemurchus, from John Grant of Freuchie, 1600. He is now represented by John Peter Grant.

Archibald of Ballintomb was the younger brother of this ancestor of Rothiemurchus: of him are descended the families of *Munimusk* and *Arndillie*. Of the family of Munimusk, was *Francis*, a Lord of Session, by the title of Cullen; he purchased the estate of Munimusk about the beginning of this century, and was created a Baronet in 1705; and is now represented by his great grandson, *Archibald*, the third of that name. *William Grant* of Prestongrange, late Lord of Session and Justiciary, was a son of this family, and grand uncle to the present Sir Archibald.

The heirs of *Arndillie* lately married David Macdowal, a brother of Garthland, and has children.

The ancestor of Moyness was *James Grant* of Ardnelzie in Rothes, and Edenvillie in Aberlour: he was the son of Duncan, who died, about 1581, before his father, John Grant of Freuchie. He was much employed in the transactions of the family of Grant, from 1597 to 1623. He purchased Logie; and was succeeded by his son, *John*, who bought the lands of Moyness in Auldearn, in 1663; and his son, *James*, sold them to Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder. It is reported that this *John* was knighted, but as it has not been lately investigated, it remains uncertain; only, in a printed collection of Scotch monumental inscriptions, published in 1714, that appears to be accurate, there is one at Fortrose, of Jean, lawful daughter of Sir James Grant of Moyness, who died 1688, ætat. 26. This James had a son killed near to Castle-Grant, when in pursuit

of his cattle, stole by Lochaber thieves, whom Brigadier Grant brought to condign punishment.

He was succeeded by his cousin *John*, a merchant at *Nairn*, whose son *Hugh* died, minister of *Knockando*, 1763; and his son *John* is now minister of *Elgin*. *James* of *Moyness* had two younger brothers: *Patrick*, ancestor of the family of *Easter Elchies*, of whom was descended *Peter*, who was a *Lord of Session* and *Jus-
ticiary*, and died 1754: the youngest brother was *Robert*, progenitor of the family of *Lurg*.

There were Grants in possession of the estate of *Dalvey* in 1752, and in 1680 it was sold to *James Grant* of *Gartenbeg*. He was King's Advocate, and knighted in 1688; and dying, as did his brother *Lewis*, without issue, the estate came to *Patrick Grant* of *In-
nerlaidnen*, who sold it to *Brigadier Grant*. *Patrick*'s son, *Alex-
ander*, purchased *Grangehill*, in the parish of *Dyke*, and called it *Dalvey*. He revived in his person the dormant title, and is now represented by his nephew *Sir Alexander*, son of *Sir Ludovich*.

Colonel Hugh Grant, a son of *Shewglie*, in *Urquhart*, was fortunate in the *East Indies*, and has bought *Moy*, near *Forres*; and his nephew, *James*, has purchased the valuable estate of *Redcastie* in *Ross*, and is a gentleman of superior information.

Robert Grant of Elchies, a cadet of the first Grants of *Ballinda-
loch*, being successful in trade, has purchased the extensive property of *Carron*, *Alachie*, *Wester Elchies*, *Balentomb*, *Knockando*, and *Craigmiln*, and has a numerous family. His nephew is *William Grant*, Counselor of Law at *London*, and member of *Parliament* for the county of *Banff*—a young lawyer of uncommon merit.

There are many other families of the name of *Grant*, as *Glen-
moriston*, *Corriemonie*, *Shewglie*, *Tullochgorum*, *Auchernick*, *De-
lachaple*, *Gartenbeg*, &c.: but there being no access to the *writs* and documents, and from the nature of the present confined publication, it is impossible to give any detail of them.

But, besides these, there are *three or four branches* that tradition reports to have come into *Strathspey* with the *Grants*, on their migration from *Stratheric*. We have seen how little traditional accounts are to be depended on, when the *MSS.* and printed accounts of this family are compared with the one now given, that is supported by history and original *writs*: we cannot therefore but look on these tales with a suspicious eye. These branches are the

Clan-Allan, *Clan-Chiaran*, and the *Clan-Phadrick*. The probability is, that some of them are the remains of the inhabitants who were established in the country, before the Grants obtained possession of Strathspey by purchase or marriage, and that others afterwards settled there. They enjoyed protection, and in time united in a bond of amity with a more powerful family, and assumed the name of Grant, as many small tribes do that of MacIntosh. Of the first is the *Clan-Phadrick*; as it appears from the chartulary of Moray, that about the 1223 the MacGillipatricks had Finlarig. Of the latter, perhaps, is the *Clan-Allan*; as in Piscottie's History of Scotland, Sir Thomas Randolph of Stratherne is called chief of the *Clan-Allan*, before he was created Earl of Moray. Abernethy in Strathspey was part of the Moray estate; and also there was a particular connection between the Randolphs and the Grants; so that it is highly probable, some of the *Clan-Allan* early settled in Abernethy, and assumed the name of Grant, but still preserved the memorial of their original.

The family and name of INNES is of great antiquity in the province of Moray. Some other families, perhaps, may be more ancient; but they cannot so well instruct the æra of their establishment. The first charter is granted by Malcolm IV. in 1157 to *Beroaldus Flandrensis*, on the lands of Innes and Ester Urchard. At and soon after this period, it appears, that many emigrated from Flanders into Scotland, and are mentioned in different charters under the appellations of *Flandrensis*, *Flamang*, *le Flamang*, *Flamatus*. In the south they were named *Fleeming*; but this Beroald assumed the local name of *Innes*, from the island or peninsula in which, at that period, part of his property was situated. The sea then covered a considerable tract of the low parts of Moray, and communicated with the loch of Spyny; so that only the high lands of Innes and Urquhart were above the water.

Mr. Shaw appears to have perused the family papers, and his account is :

Alexander II. by his charter in 1226, confirmed the lands of Innes to *Walter*, the son of *John*, the son of *Berwald*. To Walter succeeded his son *Sir Alexander*, whose son *William* was designed *Dominus de Innes* in 1298. His son *William de Innes* is designed *Baro de Innes* in 1330. His son *Robert de Innes* is designed *Dominus ejusdem* in 1360. His son *Alexander* had two sons: *Sir Robert*, who

who succeeded him, and John, who was seven years Bishop of Moray, and died 1414. This Bishop of Moray promoted the rebuilding of the cathedral, and laid the foundations of the great steeple. Sir Robert Innes married Janet, heiress of Sir David Aberkerder, thane of Aberkerder, now Marnoch, by whom he had a great addition to his estate. His son, *Sir Walter Innes*, obtained a charter of confirmation of his mother's lands from James II. 1450. His son, *Sir Robert*, was of great avail to the royal cause in the battle of Brechin, 1455; and on his succession was infected about the 1456. He had three sons: *James*, who succeeded him; *Walter*, ancestor of the families of Innermarkie, Balvenie, Coxtown, Innerbrakie, Ortown, Auchintoul, &c. His third son, *Robert*, was progenitor of the Innes's of Drainie. *James Innes* was retoured heir to his father 1464, and was succeeded by a collateral *Robert Innes* of Cromby, who was succeeded by his son *James*, who died in the battle of Pinkie, 1547, and was succeeded by his son *Alexander*. *Robert Innes*, son of *Alexander*, succeeded him. His son, *Robert*, was created by Charles I. a baronet of *Nova Scotia*, with destination to his heirs male whatever. The patent is dated at Whitehall, 29th May 1625; and they are the second in precedence of that order of Baronets. He married Lady Grizel Stewart, daughter of the Earl of Moray. He died before the Restoration, and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Sir Robert*, who married Jean, daughter of James Lord Ross of Halkhead. To him succeeded his son, *Sir James*, who by his wife Lady Margaret, daughter of Henry Lord Kerr, apparent heir of *Robert*, Earl of Roxburgh, had his son *Sir Henry*, who married Jean, daughter of Duncan Forbes of Culloden, by whom he had *Sir Henry*, his heir, John Innes of Inchbroom, and two daughters. Inchbroom died without issue; and one of his daughters was married to Provest James Stephen of Elgin, and their son is Dr. Thomas Stephen, physician there. *Sir Henry Innes* married Anne, daughter of Sir James Grant of Grant, by whom he had *James*, his heir, and *Robert*. He had also five daughters, of whom the only surviving one is Anna. He died in 1762. *Sir James* succeeded his father *Sir Henry*, and soon after sold the estate of Innes to Earl Fife. He married an heiress in England, and has added the name of Norcliff to that of Innes, but has no issue. He is the sixth Baronet in this family, and the twenty-second generation in a direct male line from Beroaldus.

To the north of Brodie house, on to the village of Dyke, is a hollow mire, that has given the name to both places; as *Broth* in Irish, and *Dyke* in Saxon, signifies a bog so situated. Anciently it was written *Brothie*, and, now changed into *Brodie*, has given the surname to the ancient family of **BRDIE**. Their old rents were either carried away or destroyed, when Lord Lewis Gordon, afterwards Marquis of Huntly, burnt the house of Brodie in 1645. From this it is uncertain, whether they were of the Aborigines of the country, or new settlers; or when the present family obtained possession of these lands. Yet they can be traced far back.

Malcolm was Thane of Brodie in the reign of Alexander III. His son *Michael*, Thane of Brodie and Dyke, had a charter from Robert Bruce about 1311. There was a *John de Brothie* about 1376. The chartulary of Moray mentions a *Thomas Brothie*, probably of Brodie, about 1386. *John of Brethie* assisted the Mac-kenzies against the Macdonalds, in the action at Park in 1466: and *John, Thane of Brodie*, is mentioned in the chartulary of Moray in 1492. Some time after this, there was a *David of Brodie*, who died in 1627, leaving several sons: *David*, who succeeded him; *Alexander*, who purchased the lands of Lethin from Sir John Grant of Freuchie; *Francis*, who purchased the lands of Milton, near Elgin, whose great-great-grandson is William Brodie of Milton; *Joseph*, whose representative is Captain Brodie. He had other sons.

David had two sons: *Alexander*, his successor, and *Joseph of Aflisk*. Alexander was a Lord of Session in 1649, but soon resigned. He was one of the commissioners sent to treat with Charles II. at the Hague and at Breda. He died in 1679, and by his wife, a daughter of Sir Robert Innes, had *James*, his successor, and a daughter, married to Sir Robert Dunbar of Grangehill. James married Lady Mary Kerr, daughter of the Earl of Lothian, and dying in 1708, left nine daughters: *Anne*, married to Lord Forbes, *Katharine* to Robert Dunbar of Grangehill, *Elizabeth* to Cummin of Altyre, *Grizel* to Dunbar of Dumphall, *Emilia* to Brodie of Aflisk, *Margaret* to Brodie of Whitehill, *Vere* to Brodie of Muirhouse, *Mary* to Chivez of Muirtown, and *Henrietta* died unmarried.

The heir male, *George*, son of Joseph of Aflisk, succeeded. He died in 1716, and left two sons, *James* and *Alexander*, and two daughters;

daughters; the one married Sinclair of Ulbster, and the other Munro of Navarre. *James* succeeded his father. He died in 1720, and was succeeded by his brother *Alexander*, who was appointed Lord Lyon in 1727. He died in 1754, and left a son, *Alexander*, who succeeded him, and a daughter, married to the Laird Macleod. *Alexander* died a bachelor in 1759, and was succeeded by *James*, son of *James Brodie* of Spynie, and grandson of *James Brodie* of Whitehill, who was brother to *George of Aflisk*, who succeeded to the estate of *Brodie*, and died in 1716. *James* married *Lady Margaret Duff*, daughter of the late Earl Fife, by whom he has two sons and three daughters. He is Lord Lieutenant of the county of *Nairn*, as is *Sir James Grant* of that of *Inverness*, and the Earl of Moray of *Elgin* and *Forres*. He is also member of Parliament for the county of Moray, being elected in 1796.

This account of the family of *Brodie* is chiefly extracted from *Mr. Shaw*, as is the following account of the family of *CALDER*, whose writs he had inspected. The surname of *Calder* is local and is ancient. *Dovenaldus, Thanus de Calder*, was one of the estimators of the baronies of *Kilravock* and *Geddes* in 1295. His son *William* had from *Robert Bruce* in 1310 the thanedom of *Kaledor*, for the usual services in the time of *Alexander III*. His son *Andrew* was killed by *Sir Alexander Raite*, whose son *Donald* was served heir to his father in 1405, and in the succeeding year was saised in the offices of Sheriff and Constable of *Nairn*. His son *William* was infest in 1442. In 1450 he built the Tower of *Calder* by a royal licence. His son *William* in 1471 bought the miln of *Nairn*, from the master of the hospital of *Spey*, at *Boat of Bridge*. In 1476 those parts of his estate that lay in the shires of *Inverness* or *Forres*, were annexed to that of *Nairn*. From this, *Frintosh*, *Moy*, *Dunmaglass*, are parts of the shire of *Nairn*. He lived to about the 1500. His son, *John*, who died in 1494, left one posthumous child, *Muiriel* or *Marion*. *Argyle* obtained the ward of *Muiriel's* marriage. In 1510 she was married to *Sir John Campbell*, third son of *Argyle*. *Sir John Campbell* of *Calder* in 1533 purchased from *John Ogilvie* of *Carnousie*, *Raite* and the fort of it, and in 1535 purchased from *David Earl of Crawford*, the barony of *Strathnairn*, and fortalice of *Castle Davie*. He died in 1546, and was succeeded by his son *Archibald*, who died in 1553. His son *John* succeeded him, and was murdered in 1592.

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His son *John* succeeded him, who mortgaged and sold considerable parts of his estate, that he might purchase, or rather conquer, the island of Ilay. He was succeeded by his son *John Dow*, who was alive in 1650, and was succeeded by his nephew *Sir Hugh*, who died in 1716. His son, *Sir Alexander*, married *Elizabeth*, sister to Sir *Gilbert* Lord of Stackpole in South Wales, and died in 1700, and was succeeded by his son *John*, who sold Ilay and Muckarn to pay his debts. He married *Mary Pryse*, heiress of *Gogirthen* in North Wales. His eldest son, *Pryse*, died in 1768; and his eldest son, *John*, succeeded his grandfather. He is married to a daughter of the Earl of Carlisle, and in 1767 was created a British Peer, with the title of Lord Cawdor.

The family of *Rose* of *Kilravock* is descended of the *Ross*'s in the south country, who came from England. Their family writings were destroyed, when the cathedral of Moray was burnt in 1390. This obscures their early history, and prevents ascertaining the æra of their first settlement in the north. The barony of *Geddes*, in the parish of *Nairn*, was their ancient inheritance. *Hugo de Roos, Dominus de Geddes*, is a witness in the foundation charter of the Priory of *Beaulie*, 1230. Sir *John Bisset* of *Lovat* had three daughters, coheiresses: one of these, *Elizabeth, Domina de Kilravock*, married Sir *Andrew Wood* of *Redcastle*: their daughter *Mary* married *Hugh Rose*, Baron of *Geddes*, and they obtained a charter on the barony of *Kilravock* from king *John Baliol*, 1293. In 1295 the barony of *Kilravock* was estimated by an inquest to L.24, and that of *Geddes* to L.12, of yearly rent. Their son *William* succeeded. His son *Hugh* died about 1363. His son *Hugh* died about 1388. His son *Hugh* died in 1420. His son *John* was alive in 1433. His son *Hugh* died in 1494, and his son *Hugh* died in 1517. His second son *John* was ancestor of the *Roses* of *Bellivat*; but his eldest son *Hugh* succeeded him, and died in 1543. His son *Hugh* died in 1597, and was succeeded by his son *William*, who died in 1611. His son *Hugh* died 1643. His son *Hugh* died 1649, and was succeeded by his son *Hugh*, who was succeeded by his son *Hugh XII*. He died in 1732, and was succeeded by his son *Hugh*, who died in 1755. He was married to *Elizabeth*, daughter to *Ludovick Grant* of *Grant*, by whom he had *Hugh*, who died in 1772, leaving a son, *Hugh*, and a daughter, *Elizabeth*. *Hugh* succeeded him, and died without children; and the succession

sion divided between the heir male, Dr. *Hugh Rose*'s son by his first marriage, and the son of *Elizabeth*, who was the second wife of Dr. Rose. The Doctor's son *Hugh* is the sixteenth of this name.

Gospatrick, Earl of Northumberland, appeared rather to countenance the murder of Earl Robert Cumine at Durham, and fled from the resentment of William the Conqueror, and took refuge with Malcolm III. who gave him the lands of *Dunbar* in the Mersc. Of him are descended, in a direct line, the Earls of Dunbar and March, as also the Homes and Dundasses, &c. The earldom of March remained with father and son, till the forfeiture of the eleventh Earl in 1434, through the ambition of the house of Douglas.

John Dunbar, second son of George the eleventh Earl of March, obtained in 1372 the earldom of Moray. His grandson, Earl James, died about 1446; and his son *Alexander*, by *Isabel Innés*, a daughter of the Laird of Innes, ought to have succeeded him; but, as his mother *Isabel* was within the degrees, forbidden by the canon law, to her husband, and dying before a dispensation could be obtained, the Douglasses got *Alexander* declared illegitimate, and *Archibald Douglas*, husband of his youngest sister, was created Earl of Moray in 1446. Though thus deprived of the earldom, he was knighted, made heritable sheriff of Moray, and got an opulent estate. He had the barony of Westfield: he had also the lands of Carnousie, Pitterhouse, Kilbuyack, Conzie, Durris, Tarras, Balnageth, Fochabers, Clunies, Moyness, Clavack, Gofurd, Barlow, &c.

Sir Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, by his wife *Elizabeth*, daughter of Sutherland of Duffus, had *Sir James* of Cumnock; *Sir John* of Mochrum; *Alexander* of Kilbuyack, ancestor to *Sir Archibald Dunbar* of Northfield and Thunderton; *Gavin*, bishop of Aberdeen; *David* of Durris, which he sold, and bought Grangehill; *Patrick*, chancellor of the diocese of Aberdeen; *Leonard*, student at Paris; and a boy who died young; and *Janet* Lady Innerugie. This account was transcribed from the family's monument at Elgin about 1714. *Sir Alexander* was succeeded by his son *Sir James*: to him succeeded his son *James*, to whom *Alexander* his son succeeded. *Alexander* died in 1576; his son *Patrick* succeeded, and, dying in 1577, was succeeded by his son *James*; to him succeeded *Alexander*, his nephew, son of *Patrick* of Boghall,

hall, who was killed in 1592 with the Earl of Moray at Dunderbristle. To Alexander succeeded his brother *John*, who died in 1622: to him succeeded *Alexander*, who died without issue in 1646; and his brother *Thomas* became Westfield, who was succeeded by his son *Robert*, who died in 1661, leaving the succession to his son *Robert*, who was succeeded by *Alexander*, who died in 1702. To him succeeded his eldest son *James*, who died in 1720 unmarried; and then *Robert*, his second son, came to the estate, and died a bachelor in 1721. The collateral line succeeded in *Ludovick*, son of Alexander of Moy, who was son of Robert, who died in 1661. He sold the sheriffship to the Earl of Moray, and died in 1744 without issue. To him succeeded *Elizabeth*, daughter of Alexander, who died 1702. She married Sir William, son of Sir James Sutherland, second son of James Lord Duffus, who assumed the name of Dunbar. Their daughter *Janet* married Thomas Dunbar of Grangehill, by whom she has *Alexander*. This Thomas sold Westfield, and all his property in Moray, to Sir James Grant of Grant, who also sold it, and it is now in the possession of Francis Ruffel.

The surname of *COMYN* is of considerable antiquity in Scotland, as it is probable they came into England with William the Conqueror, and were early established into Scotland.

There was a *Comes Robertus Comyn* appointed governor of Northumberland; but the inhabitants rose in arms, and killed him, and 700 of his followers, at Durham, 1069.

In 1142 William Comyn was chancellor to David I. of Scotland, and possessed himself of the bishopric of Durham for some time, till Richard Comyn, his nephew, obtained some lands in the bishopric. This *Richard* is often a witness in the charters of Malcolm and William, kings of Scotland. He was the father of *William Comyn*, first Earl of Buchan of that name, and *Justiciarius Scotia*, in the reign of king William, who died in 1214, and appears to have been the first of that name, of consequence and rank, who settled in Scotland.

During the reign of Alexander III. the Comyns had the direction of public affairs. At that period, there were thirty-two knights of the name in Scotland, besides Alexander Earl of Buchan, William Earl of Marr, Walter Earl of Monteith, and John Lord of Badenoch.

In 1269 there was a dispute between the Earl of Athole, and John of Badenoch, because John built a castle at Blair.

In 1296 John Comyn was *dominus de Strathbolgy*.

In 1284 John Earl of Buchan was one of the guardians of Scotland to the north of the Forth, as John Lord of Badenoch was one of them to the south of that river.

In 1305 Robert Bruce, afterwards king, killed John Comyn, Lord Badenoch, surnamed the Red, at Dumfries, because he discovered Bruce's designs on the crown of Scotland to Edward I.

Upon this murder, the powerful family of the Comyns heartily supported the English views, and gave Bruce all the opposition they could.

In 1307 Comyn Earl of Buchan fled before Bruce, at Sliach, in the neighbourhood of Strathbogie, and next year was defeated by him at Inverury. Then Bruce's affairs taking a favourable turn, he was crowned King, and soon expelled the English from Scotland. At his leisure, he forfeited all the Comyns, and so effectually reduced their numbers and influence, that Fordun says, their name was almost extirpated off the earth.

Many of the surname are scattered through Scotland; and in the province of Moray, there are the three families of *Altre*, *Logie*, and *Relucas*.

Tradition reports, that the family of *Altre* is descended of the Lord of Badenoch. One particular is certain, from the chartulary of Moray, that there was a *Comyn of Altre* before 1492, who was employed in provincial affairs of consequence, with the most respectable gentlemen in the country. The estate, many years after this, was considerable, but fell low; though now, from the attention of Alexander Penrose Comyn Gordon, who has made several purchases, it is again become valuable.

Sometime after 1656 *Robert Comyn* of *Altre*, married Lucy, eldest daughter of Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstoun. Of this marriage the present A. P. Comyn Gordon is descended. Sir William Gordon, great grandson of Sir Ludovick, having no heirs of his body, nor indeed heirs male, reduced an entail made by his grandfather, and conveyed the estate of Gordonstoun to *Altre*. The Marchioness of Tichfield, daughter of General Scott, and grandchild of Lucy, only daughter of the entaller, and married to David Scott of Scotstarvet, father of the General, has entered her

claim of succession, upon the ground that Sir William Gordon could not alter the entail, in which her grandmother and descendants were the first substitutes. This law suit is now in dependence.

The present Altre married a sister of Sir James Grant of Grant, and has a numerous family.

The antiquity of the surname of **FRASER** is great; but it is uncertain from what country they came originally, and what gave rise to the appellation. The first account of them, in Scotland, is in Tweedale, where there was a Sir Simon Fraser of Oliver Castle, who was executed at London, after the battle of Methven, 1307.

There was a Sir Alexander Fraser, who was Lord Chamberlane, 1325, and married Mary, sister of King Robert Bruce, and obtained a grant of the thanedom of Cowie. His grandson, Sir Alexander, married a daughter of the Earl of Ross, with whom he had the lands of Philorth, in Buchan: and from him is descended Lord Saltoun.

Tradition reports that *Gilbert*, sheriff of Traquair, was ancestor of the family of Lovat. His grandson, *Simon*, married a descendant of Sir John Bisset of Lovat.

By the chartulary of Moray it appears, that *Hugh Frisele of Lovat* did homage to the bishop of Moray in 1367, for Kyntallargy and Esse. *Hugh Fraser* of Lovat is retoured, 1430. Between this period and 1480, the family was nobilitated, as in this last year a *Hugo* is, in a royal charter, called *Dominus Fraser de Lovat*. There was *Hugh*, killed at the battle of Flouden, 1513. His son, *Thomas*, died in 1526. His son, *Hugh*, was killed at the conflict at Cean-Lochlochie, 1544. His son, *Alexander*, was ancestor of Fraser of Strichen, and died in 1588. *Hugh*, Alexander's son, died in 1576; to whom succeeded *Simon*, his son, who was the ancestor of Inner-alachie. *Simon* died, 1633, and his son *Hugh* succeeded him. He had two sons: *Hugh*, his heir; and *Thomas* of Beaufort. He died 1646. His son *Hugh* had *Hugh*, who died about 1672. His son *Hugh* died 1696. By his wife, *Emilia*, daughter of the Marquis of Athole, he had only three daughters. The eldest, *Emilia*, married *Mackenzie* of Prestonhall; and in the contract, the estate was provided to heirs whatsoever. *Simon*, son of *Thomas* of Beaufort, claimed the honours before the Court of Session. The Court rightly, although incompetently, adjudged the honours of Lovat to him. This decision was founded on a new charter obtained from the

King

King in 1539, by Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovat, on his resignation of his whole family estate. By this charter, it was united, created, and incorporated into one barony, and limited to the heirs male of the body of *Hugh*, and failing them, to his lawful and nearest male whatsoever.

This Simon Lord Fraser of Lovat, on account of his treasonable practices, was beheaded, 9th April 1747, and his estate forfeited. In 1774 the King granted to his son *Simon* the estate. This Simon's mother was a daughter of Ludovick Grant of Grant. He died without children, and his brother *Archibald* succeeded him, who has children; and his eldest son, *Simon*, is member of parliament for the county of Inverness.

In the days of barbarism and misrule, when right and wrong were determined by the sword, several feeble and unimportant clans or families in Scotland united themselves under one common head, for mutual protection and defence against their more powerful neighbours. In the province of Moray, the Macphersons, Macbeans, Shaws, Macgillivrays, Macqueens, Macphails, Smiths, Catteighs, &c. &c. entered into a combination of this nature, and denominated themselves the *Clan Chattan*, under the direction of the Laird of MacIntosh, who was called Captain of the *Clan Chattan*. *Mac Intosh* signifies, the chief or leader's son. The era of this association is lost in tradition, as there are no written records of it. The tales of family ostentation are not to be depended on, and it would be an insult, in this enlightened age, to obtrude them as authentic genealogy or history. That the family of *Mac Intosh* is ancient cannot be questioned. It is equally certain, that it has many cadets and respectable alliances, and has had considerable weight in many private and public transactions in the country.

The story of tradition is, that a son of Duncan Macduff, fifth Earl of Fife, who died 1154, came north, and had lands granted to him in the vicinity of Inverness; and the fifth in descent from him, *Angus*, married Eva, heiress of Dowal Dal, chief of the *Clan Chattan*, and obtained his estate. In a bond of manrent between the Laird of MacIntosh and the Macphersons, 1609, they acknowledge him to be their chief. In many royal charters, royal letters, and other writs, he is also designed *Captain of Clan Chattan*.

Angus' son, *William*, succeeded to him. To *William* succeeded his son *Lauchlan*, and to him his son *Ferquhar*. To him his

uncle, *Malcolm Beg*. He died 1457. His son *Duncan* succeeded; to him succeeded his son *Ferquhar*, who died in 1514 without male issue. His relation, *William*, grandson of Malcolm by his third son, *Lauchlan*, succeeded, and was murdered in 1515 by his clan. His brother *Lauchlan* succeeded, and was also murdered by his clan, 1524. His son *William* succeeded, and was put to death by the Earl of Huntly at Huntly Castle in 1550; for which the Earl paid an affyment, or compensation, of lands to a considerable extent, that as yet are parts of the MacIntosh estate. His son *Lauchlan* succeeded, and died, 1606. He was succeeded by his grandson *Sir Lauchlan*, who died in 1622. His son *William* died, 1660, and was succeeded by his son *Lauchlan*, who died in 1704. His son *Lauchlan* died in 1731 without issue, and was succeeded by *William*, his near relation, who died in 1740 without issue. To him succeeded his brother *Angus*, who married a daughter of Innercauld, and died without issue in 1770. To him succeeded *Aeneas*, his near relation, who married a daughter of Sir Ludovick Grant of Dalvey, but has no children.

The MACPHERSONS are one of those small clans that associated themselves under the Captain of the Clan Chattan. It is said, that they derive their name from an ancestor, who was parson of Kingusie, and married. Be this as it may, they are numerous, and occupy great part of Badenoch. Their chief is, *Macpherson of Clunie*. In 1660 *Andrew* was laird of Clunie, whose son *Ewan* was father of *Duncan*, who died in 1722 without male issue. The nearest male heir was *Lauchlan* of Nuid, who was great-grand-nephew of the mentioned *Andrew*. *Lauchlan*'s son *Ewan* engaged in the rebellion of 1745, and was forfeited. He left a son, *Duncan*, by *Janet*, daughter of Simon Lord Fraser of Lovat, who is a colonel in the army, and had his estate restored to him by act of parliament in 17.

There is another respectable family of this name, *Macpherson of Innerishie*, who are of some antiquity, and now have an handsome estate. *George*, the late proprietor, was married to a sister of General Grant of Ballindalloch, and had two sons, and several daughters. His eldest son, *William*, is a bachelor. His other son, *John*, was married, and retired from the army, to enjoy a country life. He has two sons and a daughter.

From this country was the notorious James Macpherson, the editor

editor of *Offian's Poems*. He died in 1796, after purchasing considerable property in Badenoch.

The MACDONALDS are a numerous and opulent name, and have long occupied a considerable part of the West Highlands of Scotland. It is uncertain, whether they emigrated from Norway and the Orkneys, or from Ireland. Their own tradition is, that they are of Irish extraction. Be this as it may, they are flourishing, and often engaged in private and public transactions of various type.

The family seat of the Macdonalds of Glengary is at Inngary. They are descended of Clan Ranald of Moidart; for there are bonds of manrent between Glengary and his neighbours, as far back as 1571, in which he acknowledges Clan-Ranald for his chief.

It is said, that John, Lord of the Isles, had a grandson, *Donald of Glengary*, who was father of *Alexander*, who had *Alexander*, who died about 1515, and left two sons: *Alexander*, his successor, and *Angus*, progenitor of Lord Macdonald of Aros. *Alexander* died about 1550, and his successor was his son *Alexander*, who died about 1604. His grandson *Alexander* had two sons: *Donald Gorm*, and *Alexander*. On the death of Lord Macdonald of Aros, in 1680, without issue, *Alexander* obtained his estate, and died about 1685. *Donald Gorm* was killed at Killycrankie, 1689, and unmarried. His brother *Alexander* succeeded, and was in the conflicts of Cromdale, 1690, and Sherrifmuir, 1715, and died in 1724. His son *John* succeeded, and died in 1754. *Alexander*, his son, was imprisoned at London in 1745; but *Angus*, another son, led the tenants and vassals of Glengary into the rebellion, and was killed by a random shot at Falkirk, in January 1746. *Alexander* returned home, and died a bachelor, 1761. *Angus'* son, by a niece of Struan, succeeded, and was *Duncan* of Glengary. He married a daughter of Sir Ludovick Grant of Dalvey, and had issue. He died in 1788, and his son *Alexander* succeeded.

The surname of DUFF has within this century emerged, and risen into uncommon opulence; and the family of their present head, the Earl Fife, has gone through the gradations of Irish nobility, till the present Earl in 1790 was created a British Peer, by the title of *Duff, Lord Fife*.

There was an old family of this name, proprietors of Muldavid and

and Craighead, in the immediate vicinity of Cullen. Through ten descents, decently instructed, the direct line at last became extinct, in the person of *John Duff*, who died in Holland, 1717. The grandfather of this John was twice married. A son of his second marriage was *Adam*, who lived in Clunybeg of Auchindown. By his wife, a daughter of Gordon of Birkenburn, this Adam had *Alexander* of Keithmore; *William*, ancestor of Drummuir and Crombie; *John*, ancestor of Corsindae. Clunybeg died in 1677. *Alexander* of Keithmore married *Helen*, daughter of *Alexander Grant* of Allachie, an heiress. By her he had *Alexander* of Braco, *William* of Dipple, and *Patrick* of Craigston. *Alexander* purchased the lands of Braco, and made many other acquisitions. He married a daughter of *Sir William Gordon* of Lesmore, and had several daughters. His only son, *William*, succeeded him, who died without male issue. His uncle, *William* of Dipple, succeeded; and by his wife, a daughter of *Sir George Gordon* of Edinglassie, left several daughters, and a son, *William*, who succeeded to the estates of Braco and Dipple. He married *Jean*, daughter of *Sir James Grant* of Grant. In 1735 he was created Baron Braco of Kilbryde in Ireland, and by patent to him and his heirs male in 1759, he was created Viscount Macduff and Earl Fife in that kingdom. He died in 1763, and was succeeded by his son *James Viscount Macduff*, who in 1790 was created a British Peer.

This *William*, Earl of Fife, had a numerous family, and gave landed property to all his younger sons. *Alexander* got Echt in Aberdeenshire, and married a daughter of *Skene* of Skene, and has children. *George* got the estate of Milntown and Bermuckity near Elgin, was married, and has a son. *Lewis* had Blairrie near Forres, was married, but has no children. *Arthur* had Orton, and remains a bachelor. His eldest daughter, *Lady Ann*, married her near relation, *Duff* of Hatton, and had one daughter, *Jean*, an heiress, married to her cousin, *Sir James Grant* of Grant. *Lady Jane* married *Sir William Gordon* of Park, and, after his death, *Hay* of Montblairy. *Lady Janet* married *Keith Urquhart* of Meldrum. *Lady Margaret* married *James Brodie* of Brodie. *Lady Sophia* married *Mr. Wharton*; and *Lady Helen* married *Admiral Duff*. *James Earl Fife* married the only child of *Sinclair* Earl of Caithness, and has no issue.

William,

William, second son of Clunybeg, was father of Alexander, who married Katherine, eldest daughter and heiress of Duff of Drummuir, and by her had Robert of Drummuir, John of Coubin, and William of Muirtown. To Robert of Drummuir succeeded his son, Archibald of Drummuir, who died a bachelor, and was succeeded by his cousin descended of Coubin. William had a second son, James, father of William Duff of Crombie. Of Clunybeg's third son is descended Duff of Corsindae. Of Keithmore's son, Patrick of Craigston, are descended Hatton, Premnay, Fetteresso, &c.

The family of GORDONSTOWN is now extinct in the male line; but it would be improper to omit a sketch, as they were distinguished by their abilities, as also by their peculiarities.

Sir Robert Gordon, the first of Gordonstown, was second son of Alexander Earl of Sutherland. In May 1625 he was created a knight baronet of the order of Nova Scotia, with precedence of all the knights of that order. In 1634 he was one of the Privy Council of Charles I.; and in 1642 the Parliament made him a Privy Counsellor for life. He was grandfather, by his daughter Katharine, to the celebrated Robert Barclay, author of the *Apology for the Quakers*. In 1656 he was succeeded by his son *Ludovick*. He had three daughters: Lucy, married to Robert Cumyn of Altre; Katharine, married to Thomas Dunbar of Grange; and Elizabeth, married to Dunbar of Westfield. The descendants of the two first exist to this day. His son *Robert*, by his wife Elizabeth, only daughter of Sir William Dunbar of Hemprigs, had *Robert*, his heir, and Lucy, married to Scott of Scotstarvet, and mother to General Scott. *Robert* succeeded in 1701. His wife was Agnes, daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Calderwood. He died in 1772. Two sons of this marriage survived him. *Robert*, who died a bachelor in 1776, and was succeeded by his brother *William*, who settled his estate on Comyn of Altre, and also died a bachelor in 1795.

Archibald Dunbar, of the Dunbars of Kilbuyack, bought a great part of the Duffus estate from James Lord Duffus, and assumed the title of Thunderton. He died, 1730. His eldest daughter married her cousin-german, *Archibald Dunbar* of Newton, and succeeded to the estate. Archibald died in 1769. Of this marriage was *Alexander*, who married Margaret, daughter of the Viscount

count of Arbuthnot. Sir Patrick Dunbar of Northfield, a descendant of Kilbuyack, dying without male issue, this Alexander proved his propinquity to him, before an inquest, and in 1776 took up the title. He died in 1791. Sir Alexander, by his marriage, had two sons, Archibald and John, and a daughter, married to Dr. Coull of Ashgrove. John is a Captain of dragoons, and *Sir Archibald* married Helen, daughter of Altre, and has issue.

Urquhart of Birdsyards, near Forres, was a descendant of the **URQUHARTS** of Cromarty. Tradition reports, that this family were appointed heritable keepers of the Castle of Forres, by Randolph, Earl of Moray. In 1390 there was a *Thomas Urchard de Birdzardis*, or *Borrowzairdis*, who had Sherifmiln, and other lands near Elgin. The estate continued in the family, till *Robert* sold it to George Grant from Jamaica, who now resides at Sanchar, which is happily situated, as having a variety of the most beautiful prospects.

Lethin belonged to **FALCONERS**, as early as the 1295, and remained with them till John Grant of Freuchie purchased it about the 1600. His son, Sir John, sold it, about 1630, to *Alexander*, second son of David Brodie of Brodie. He also purchased the abbey lands of Kinloss, from Thomas Bruce, Earl of Elgyn, and in 1651 and 1652 sold the materials of the abbey, and with them the citadel of Inverneis was built. He died in 1660, and was succeeded by his son *Alexander*, who died in 1696, leaving one daughter, Janet, married to Lewis Grant of Grant about 1676. To this Alexander succeeded *David*, his brother, who died without issue. To him succeeded *Alexander*, son of James Brodie of Kinlee, brother of David, who married Sophia, a daughter of Calder, and had a numerous family. He died in 1744. To him his son *Alexander* succeeded, who married Henrietta, daughter of Colonel William Grant of Ballindaloch, in 1754, and died 1770. His son *Alexander* died in 1770, and his other son, *John*, in 1773, both unmarried. The heiress by entail is his daughter *Anne*, unmarried. Her sister, Sophia, is lately married to her cousin, Dunbar of Grange.

Lesly of Findrassie is descended of Leslie Earl of Rothes, and asserts on plausible grounds, that he is the heir-male, and in that line, ought to have the estate and honours. This claim is become nugatory, as in 1558 *Andrew Lesly*, second son of the fourth

Earl

Earl of Rothes, succeeded to the estate and honour, in which he was invested, in consequence of his father's surrender and resignation. In 1667 *John*, then Earl, and afterwards Duke of Rothes, resigned his honour into the hands of Charles II. and a charter was expedited under the great seal in favour of his heiress female; by which Margaret, his daughter, succeeded him in the title, and was Countess of Rothes, on his death in 1681.

Be this as it may, *Robert*, the first of Findrassie, brother of Andrew Earl of Rothes, was succeeded by his son *Robert*, who had two sons, *Robert* and *John*. *Robert* succeeded him. His son *George* succeeded, and dying childless, *Abraham*, *George*'s brother, succeeded, who also died without issue. A collateral *John* succeeded, whose father, *John*, was son of *John*, second son of *Robert* above-mentioned. This *John* married Margaret, daughter of Gordon of Glengerack, and had several children. His son *Alexander* succeeded; but all his children dying, his brother *Abraham* succeeded; and on his death, his daughter, *Caroline Jemima Leslie*, his heiress of entail, succeeded, and married *John Leslie*, now of Findrassie, and have children.

James Calder of Muirtown was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia in 1686. In 1710 he disposed his estate to trustees, and Kilravock purchased it. His son *Thomas* succeeded to the title. To him succeeded his son *James*, who married advantageously in England, and his son *Henry* succeeded, and died a general officer, leaving one son, _____, a minor.

There was a family of the surname of MURREFF or MORAY of Duffus, who, and the cadets of it, had, in the reign of David I. and long after, most extensive estates in this province, and in the neighbouring counties. This leads to conjecture, that the rebellion of the *Moravientes* in the reign of Malcolm IV. was neither so universal, as our monkish historians report, nor attended with so general effects, as transplanting all the inhabitants, or that the new occupiers assumed the local name.

However numerous and opulent these Morays of Duffus were, it is from the chartulary of Moray alone that we receive any authentic information concerning them. From a transcript of this record, it appears that

In 1190 Richard, bishop of Moray, feus the lands of Logynandal in Duffus, to *William*, son of Freskyn.

About 1200 *William*, son of *William*, son of *Freskyn*, was patron of the church of *Arthildol*, or *Arndilly*.

About 1210 *Frefkyn de Kerdal*, or *Kirdels*, was uncle to *Brictius*, bishop of *Moray*, and patron of the church of *Deveth*, or *Dalvey*. His daughter, an heiress, married *Alexander de Strivelyn*.

At the same period *Walter de Moravia* was patron of the church of *Inneralien*.

Before 1214 *William*, son of *Freskyn*, is a witness to a charter of king *William*.

Before 1216, when Pope *Innocent III.* died, *Brictius*, bishop of *Moray*, founds eight canonries at the cathedral of *Spyny*. One of them is on the lands of *Dulday*, and *Lunyn*, or *Dunlichty*—*salva tenura Willielmi, filij Willielmi, filij Freskyni*; as also on the lands of *Logy* near *Duffus*—*salva tenura Hugonis, filij Willielmi, filij Freskyni*.

In 1220 *Andrew*, bishop of *Moray*, gives his lands of *Butruthin* or *Botriphny*, *Aginway*, *Artildol*, *Aberlour*, and *Corekynermone* or *Kinnermony*, to *Walter de Moravia*, son of the late *William de Moravia*.

In 1226 this last agreement is renewed by bishop *Andrew*, with the same *Walter*, son of the late *William*. He is called *Walterus de Petyn*, or *Petty*. The lands of *Ardtrillen*, *Lunyn*, *Croyn*, *Dulday*, are added; as also the presentation to the churches of *Croyn*, *Aberlour*, *Butruthin*, and *Artildol*. There were many seals to it, and, among others, that of *Walter de Moravia*, son of the late *Hugh*.

In 1226 *Andrew*, bishop of *Moray*, enters into an agreement with *Walter de Moravia*, son of *Hugh*, about *Walter's* rights over the muirs of *Spyny*, which *Walter* said his ancestors had *ab antiquo*.

About 1229 it appears that *Walter*, son of *William de Moravia*, was patron of the churches of *Petyn*, *Butruchin* or *Botriphny*, *Bracholy*, *Aberlour*, and *Dufphus* or *Duffus*.

In 1232 *Dominus Walterus de Duffus*, and *Dominus Walterus de Petyn, milites*, are witnesses to a convention between bishop *Andrew* and *David de Strathbolgyn*.

In 1248 *Simon*, bishop of *Moray*, confirms the agreement made by bishop *Andrew* with *Walter de Moravia*, father of *Freskyn*, and also ratifies the charters given by his predecessors to the grandfather

ther

ther and great grandfather of Freskyn, on the muirs of Spyny and Finrofie.

In 1237 Andrew, bishop of Moray, grants a situation for a corn miln on his lands of Uchter Spyny, to *Walter de Moravia*. This is Sherrifmiln on Loffy, and was part of the Duffus estate. William de Sutherland is one of the witnesses.

In 1240 *Walter de Moravia*, son of *Hugh*, gives one toft and one croft to the church of St. Peter at Duffus.

In 1286 the bishop of Moray, Archibald, is guardian of an agreement between William Federeth, portioner of Duffus, and Reginald le Chene, about the four davachs of Strathnavyr, which Federeth and his wife, *Christiana de Moravia*, yield to Chene, who performs the third part of the free service of one knight, for that part of the barony of Strathbrock, or Westfield, that William possesses. This William and Christiana were alive in 1294.

It appears from Prinn's collections, that in 1296 the Morays were numerous, and in many shires of the kingdom. There were *Dominus Willielmus de Moravia, de Bothwyl miles*; *Willielmus de Moravia, de Tullibardin del Conte de Perth*, &c. *Sir Andrew Moray* of Bothwell was governor of Scotland. He died in the north, 1338, and was buried at Rosemarkie.

The family of Chene of Duffus ended in two daughters. *Mary* married *Nicholas Sutherland*, second son of Kenneth, Earl of Sutherland, slain at Halidon Hill, 1333. Nicholas' grandson, *Alexander Sutherland*, married Morella, heiress of Chisholm of Quarrywood. Alexander, the fifth in descent from him, was created Lord Duffus in 1650. James, the second Lord, who died in 1705, sold the greatest part of the estate to Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton. Kenneth, the third Lord Duffus, was a captain in the navy; but, engaging in the rebellion of 1715, was attainted. His son *Eric* lived in Sutherland, whose son *James* resides in the Orkneys.

In giving an account of the GRANTS, it was omitted to mention, that the *Clan-Allan* is represented by the family of Auchernack, the *Clan-Chiaran* by *Dellachaple*, and the *Clan-Phadrick* by *Tullochgorum*.

The tradition of the country is, that the *Clan-Allan*, who came north with Thomas Randolph, were Stewarts, now in Strathaven. The family of Auchernack, above 200 years ago, was opulent, and married into respectable families. Major Louis Grant is now the

head of it. He resides at Achernack, and is materially improving the old duchas.

To this it is to be added, that Sir James Grant of Grant has repeatedly been a member of Parliament for the counties of Moray and Banff, and now has a regiment of the line, the 97th, and the first Scotch Fencible foot regiment, with a profitable place at the Board of Excise.

TABLE OF THE POPULATION OF THE PROVINCE OF MORAY.

No.		Population in 1755.	Population in 1797.	Increase.	Decrease.
<i>Elgin Presbytery.</i>					
1	Speymouth	994	1347	353	—
2	Urquhart	1110	1050	—	60
3	St. Andrews Lhanbryd	690	740	50	—
4	Drainy	1174	1040	—	134
5	Duffus	1679	1500	—	179
6	Spynie	865	602	—	263
7	Elgin	6306	4594	—	1772
8	Birnie	525	402	—	123
9	Alves	1691	1111	—	580
		15034	12326	403	3111
<i>Forres Presbytery.</i>					
10	Kinloss	1191	1031	—	160
11	Forres	1993	2987	994	—
12	Rafford	1313	1072	—	241
13	Dallas	700	888	188	—
14	Edinkillie	1443	1312	—	131
15	Dyke	1642	1529	—	113
		8282	8819	1182	645
<i>Nairn Presbytery.</i>					
16	Aulderne	1600	1400	—	200
17	Nairn	1698	2400	702	—
18	Airdersier	428	1298	870	—
19	Croy	1901	1552	—	349
20	Calder	882	1062	180	—
21	Ardclach	1163	1186	23	—
		7672	8898	1175	549

Inverness

No.		Population in 1755.	Population in 1797.	Increase.	Decrease.
<i>Inverness Presbytery.</i>					
22	Moy and Dallaroskie	1693	1813	120	—
23	Daviot and Dunlichty	2176	1697	—	479
24	Durris	1520	1365	—	155
25	Petty	1643	1518	—	125
26	Inverness	9730	10527	797	—
27	Kirkhill	1360	1570	210	—
28	Killtarlity	1964	2495	531	—
<i>Abertarff Presbytery.</i>					
29	Urquhart	20086	20985	1658	759
30	Boleskin	1920	1929	29	—
31	Laggan	1380	1402	22	—
		1521	1512	—	9
<i>Abernethy Presbytery.</i>					
32	Kingussie	4821	4863	51	9
33	Alvie	1900	1983	83	—
34	Duthil and Rothymurchus	1021	1011	—	10
35	Abernethy	1785	1110	—	675
36	Cromdale	1670	1769	99	—
37	Kirkmichael	3063	3000	—	63
		1288	1276	—	12
<i>Aberlaur, and part of Strathboggy Presbyteries.</i>					
38	Inveravon	10727	10149	182	760
39	Knockando	2464	2244	—	220
40	Aberlaur	1267	1550	233	—
41	Mortlach	1010	920	—	90
42	Boharm	2374	1918	—	456
43	Rothes	1235	1294	59	—
44	Keith	2119	1500	281	—
45	Bellie	2683	3150	467	—
		1730	1919	189	—
		13982	14445	1229	766

Abstract of Population Table.

	Population in 1755.	Population in 1797.	Increase.	Decrease.
Sum of Presb. of Elgin	15034	12326	403	3111
Forres	8282	8819	1182	645
Nairn	7672	8898	1775	549
Inverness	20086	20985	1658	759
Abertarff	4821	4863	51	9
Abernethy	10727	10149	182	760
Aberlaur, &c.	13982	14445	1229	766
	80604	80485	6480	6599
	80485			6480
	119			119

By the above table, the population upon the amount of the 45 parishes seems to have rather decreased since the year 1755.

In the country parishes, the decrease seems to be more general in the most fertile and best cultivated districts, where the extent of the farms has been of late increased. In the interior parishes, where much of the land is occupied in small possessions, and where improvers have occasionally settled in the skirts of the country, the population seems to have rather increased.

In the parishes of Auldearn, Boharm, and Rothes, the population, as published in the Statistical Account of Scotland, has been somewhat altered.

The parish of Dundurcas was annexed to those of Boharm and Rothes, and its population, in 1755 about 946, has in this table been added to the respective parishes of which it now makes part.

Upon the other side, the minister of Auldearn, in a process for an augmentation of stipend in the year 1754, states the population only at 1600, which at that time it could not have exceeded.

Upon the same side also, an error in Dr. Webster's report of the population of Elgin, as published in the 5th vol. of the Statistical Account of Scotland, must at the least amount to one thousand more than it consisted of about 1755.

Several new houses have of late been built, and a few that had remained uninhabited, perhaps since they were burned by the Marquis

quis of Montrose, have been rebuilt: several families have also come in from the country: from which it might be presumed, that the population of the town is increasing. But people now require more room and larger houses than formerly. Several also of the inferior artizans, to escape the imposts of the royalty, have migrated to a suburbs, the rising village of Bishopmill, in the parish of Spynie. There is reason therefore to suppose, that the present population of the town, about 3000, has continued for many years with little variation, the country part only having decreased about 400. By adding that number to its present population of 1600, that of the year 1755 will be pretty accurately ascertained, making the whole parish then amount to about 5000: and by this statement, the population of the whole province, instead of being diminished, must have really increased about 900.

CHAPTER II.

ANTIQUITIES OF THE PROVINCE.

§. 1. *Roman Progress.*

THE idea of Caledonian independence long influenced the opinions of our historians and antiquaries. It prevented their judging with candour of the proofs, that the Romans penetrated to the northern part of Scotland. These prejudices now begin to subside; and Scotsmen allow equal weight to the same degree of evidence, of the Roman progress in their native country, as they do with regard to Germany, or any other province of that empire they are not particularly interested in.

This evidence and information is not to be derived from the legendary tales of our historians, or the crude theories of our antiquarians, founded in fiction, and supported by credulity. The genuine sources it is to be drawn from, are the Roman and Greek writers. The history they give us of the Roman progress in this island, is confirmed by those stupendous monuments of their power and industry that remain, as walls, stations, military roads, and ruins of towns.

It is from Tacitus' life of Agricola, that we obtain the first correct information of the success of the Roman arms in Scotland. He commanded their troops for nine years, and penetrated into Scotland, as far as the foot of the Grampian mountains. Had Tacitus' account of Agricola's eight campaigns been attended to, the field of his battle with the Caledonian chief Galgacus, could never be conjectured to have been in Strathern, near the kirk of Comrie, nor at Fortingal Camp, a place somewhat farther on the other side of the Tay. These places are too inland, as that campaign was near the sea coast. The land-army and fleet co-operated in attacking the enemy, and supporting each other. The sailors often were in the Roman camps, and detailed the dangers they encountered by sea, to the legions, who related the hardships they were exposed to in their marches through hills and forests. This was also the case in Agricola's sixth and seventh campaigns; and remains of his fortified

tified camps are yet to be seen, from *Camelon* to his camp at *Stonehaven*, and the extensive works on *Finlystone* hill, near to *Urie*, where the battle with *Galgacus* was fought.

Though it is a little foreign to the present inquiry, yet it throws light on the Roman progress at large, to mention the series of *Agricola's* camps, during the three years he employed in his progress northward, after his crossing the *Bodotria*, or *Forth*. They are taken from a map that General *Roy* published several years ago, and have all been verified: *Camelon*, *Kier*, *Ardoch*, *Camp Castle*, *Strageth*, *Perth*, *Graffywalls*, *Burghtay*, *Lintrose*, *Coupar in Angus*, *Kirkboddo*, *Battle Dykes*, *Kiethick*, *Fordun*, *Stonehaven*. This chain of posts, not far distant from the sea shore, preserved the communication with his fleet, and secured both his conquests and retreat. The remains of a Roman camp were, some years ago, to be seen near the shore at *Stonehaven*, but are now effaced. It was the station *Agricola* occupied, before his battle with *Galgacus*. The extensive works on *Finlystone* hill, about two miles to the west of *Stonehaven*, contain within the intrenchments about 120 *Scots* acres. There the *Caledonians* encamped, who learned this art of fortification from the *Romans*, and had it so large, as to contain their flocks and herds. The face of the ground between *Stonehaven* and *Finlystone* hill corresponds to *Tacitus'* description, particularly at *Campstone* hill, a mile to the north east, and near to the sea shore, where was the field of battle; as there are the remains of many small cairns, and some single stone obelisks.

It was *Agricola's* plan, according to *Tacitus*, to have penetrated to the extremities of *Britain*. With this view, his fleet sailed round the island, and, as *Juvenal* informs, conquered the *Orkney* islands. So enterprising and steady a general would have completed his plan, had not *Domitian's* jealousy recalled him. His successor was *Lucullus*, who also appears to have been eminent in the military line; and there is every degree of probability, that he pushed his conquests at least to *Inverness*. This opinion is combated by national vanity and prejudice; but if the evidence it is supported by is carefully examined, and impartially weighed, it will be found strong, if not decisive.

Ptolemy of Alexandria flourished about the year 140 of the Christian era. He wrote a system of geography, which is yet

extant, and gives not only the longitude and latitude of the sea coasts of Scotland, but that of some of the northern and inland places of it. He names the towns of *Tueffis*, *Ptoroton*, *Banatia*, *Tamea*, and the different clans of inhabitants who occupied the whole country. This information he could only obtain from the Romans; and making some allowances for the inaccuracy of the observations communicated to him, or from perhaps the errors in the manuscripts of his work, there is more exactness in the relative situation he gives of places, than at first could be supposed. The *east* in modern maps is the *west* in his. Notwithstanding this, and that he makes the coasts of Scotland trend to the *east*, instead of running *north*, or so, yet he lays down the places agreeable to their real situation, on the respective sides of the island.

His tables have been often misrepresented, and tortured to support hypothesis and opinion. This arose from not delineating a map agreeable to the degrees he assigns. Had this been done, *Ptoroton*, or *Castra Alata*, would never have been placed at *Cramond*, or *Edinburgh*, but where Ptolemy places it, on the *Sinus Vararis*, the *Moray Firth*. But allowing Ptolemy's geography to be more inaccurate than it is, it decidedly proves that, when he wrote, the Romans were well acquainted with the interior country of the north of Scotland, as well as the sea coasts.

The inhabitants of the province of Moray he names *Vacomagi* and *Caledonij*. Among them, on the *Sinus Vararis*, or *Moray Firth*, he places *Tueffis*, which answers to much about where *Gordon Castle* is. An English mile to the north of *Gordon Castle*, are the remains of an encampment, which, from its square figure, and ditch and ramparts, and ports, has every appearance of being Roman. It no doubt was originally intended to cover the ford on the river *Tueffis*, or *Spey*, which at that period ran at the foot of the bank on which the station was placed.

Ptolemy mentions *Ptoroton Stratopedon*, or *Castra Alata*, in the country of the *Vacomagi*, which, from the situation he assigns to it on the *Moray Firth*, and its relative position to *Tueffis*, can be no other than what is now called the *Burgh*, a fisher-town in the parish of *Duffus*. It is a promontory, or neck of land, that on the north and west sides has steep rocks, washed by the sea. The elevation of the area on the top is about sixty feet above low water. This area is three hundred feet long on the west side, five hundred

hundred and twenty feet on the east side; two hundred and sixty feet on the north, and three hundred feet on the south side. It appears to have been surrounded with a rampart, about twenty feet high, built of stone and lime, with some oak planks intermixed. At a small distance without this, on the south side, are three ditches, about thirty feet below the top of the area. They are from sixteen to twenty feet deep; and from twelve to sixteen feet wide at the bottom, and from forty to fifty feet wide at the top. The ramparts and spaces between them are about sixty feet in breadth, and intersect all communication from the land side. There is a bay and harbour to the west, where the Roman fleet could ride at anchor with safety. This station was afterwards occupied by the Norwegians and Orkneymen, as a place of strength and a protection for their barks, when they established themselves in Moray, and Duffeyras, or Duffus, in the eleventh century, when they conquered that country by their general, *Helgy*, the founder of *Helgyn*, or *Elgyn*, as appears from Torfeus' history of the Orkneys. They called it in their language *Burgh*, which signifies a town; but it is singular, that the old inhabitants of the *Burgh*, within these fifty years, called it *Torytown*, or *Terytown*, which approaches near to the name Ptolemy gives it of *Ptoroton*.

In the same country of the *Vacomagi*; or province of *Moray*, the Alexandrian geographer mentions *Banatia* as in the neighbourhood of *Tueffis* and *Ptoroton*. When the river *Ness* issues from the *Loch*, it runs about five or six hundred yards, and falls into another small loch, which is bent into a semicircular figure, and with the river forms a peninsula. On this slip of ground, there has been a military station of two small forts. The outer fort is a square of fifty paces by fifty-three, which on the one side is protected by the river, and on the other by the small loch; and next the field, is a rampart, and a ditch, fourteen feet wide: on the inner side, is another ditch and rampart, of the former breadth. The inner fort is built of rather modern masonry, and is also a square of twenty-four paces on each side. These forts cover the only ford on the *Ness*, which is called *Bona*, or *Buness*; but in Erse, the ancient dialect of the country, it is called *Bana*. From this similarity of name, and being in the country of the *Vacomagi*, it probably is the *Banatia* of Ptolemy.

Dio Cassius, whom some conjecture to have been the Emperor

Severus's private secretary in his British expeditions, wrote his history, by that Prince's particular desire. The information he gives may be considered authentic, in what regards Severus's operations in North Britain, as he relates events that either passed under his own eye, or were reported to him by those who were principally engaged in them. His testimony is express, that Severus lost 50,000 men in the expedition, but penetrated by land to the utmost northern bounds of Scotland. This he confirms by the astronomical observations that were made, on the different lengths of the days and nights in these regions, from what they were in Italy.

Besides these historical accounts of the Roman conquests, to the north of the Grampian chain of mountains, and the remains of fortifications that, from geography and their form, have every appearance of being erected by that warlike and industrious people, there have been urns, medals, and weapons discovered, that also afford additional evidence of their progress. Two urns were lately found in Findlater, at the farm of *Brankanenthim*, in two large heaps of stone. They were full of ashes. One of them had a cover, with the figure of something like a pine apple on the top of the cover, but was broke in digging it out. The other urn had no cover but a flat stone, and was ornamented with a variety of rude carvings. In the same neighbourhood, several years ago, were discovered some medals, which Gordon mentions in his *Itinerarium Septentrionale*.

Another urn, likewise full of ashes, was discovered near Gordonstown, and is in excellent preservation. Two more were dug out of a *tumulus* near to Lethin, but, from the precipitancy of the labourers, were broke to pieces.

These urns may be considered as Roman, as there is no evidence that our ancestors burned their dead. They buried them in stone coffins, or under small arches of half-burnt clay, as in the muir at the kirk of Alvey in Badenoch.

The heads of *pilums* of different figures, for foot and horse soldiers, have been also discovered in Moray and Nairn-shires. It is true, they are of that species of copper or brass, which Pliny names *caldarium*, and it is said, they are the weapons of the natives, and are not Roman. To this it may be replied, that *Herodian* asserts, that in his time the natives of Britain knew the use of iron, and therefore

therefore might employ it for their weapons, as well as the Romans. *Livy* says, that the arms of the first class of *Servius* were all of copper. *Cæsar* used the same metal in refitting his ships; and *Dio Cassius* informs, that sometimes the point of the Roman dagger was steel, or iron, which implies that the remainder of the blade was of another metal, copper. It is also said, that all the extant arms and tools of that illustrious people are copper, which they had the art to temper and harden, in a very high degree.

Thus the Roman progress is traced to Innernefs, by ancient geography and history, encampments, weapons, coins, and urns. The proofs arising from each of these sources, taken single and unconnected, might give a certain degree of credibility to the opinion; but united, they have such accumulated evidence on the whole, that establishes it as fact we may depend on. They receive additional weight from the geographical treatise, *De Situ Britanniae*, and the map that accompanied it.

The manuscript was discovered and published by Charles Bertram, at Copenhagen in 1757. The author is supposed to be *Richard of Cirencester*, a monk of Westminster, who made the history of Britain the object of his studies. He lived under the reign of Edward III. Whoever was the author, the work has merit, and claims attention, as it illustrates the geography and history of the island, and though wrote by a monk of the fourteenth century, is not to be classed among the futile productions of that age. It is the composition of one, conversant with the best writers of antiquity, and who had the discernment to select what was valuable, and adapted to the nature of his dissertation. *Cæsar* and *Tacitus*, *Lucan* and *Claudian*, were familiar to him. He also appears to have had other sources of information, equally important, that are now lost. From all these he acquired an accurate knowledge of the history and geography of even the interior and northern parts of Scotland.

By his map, he places *Banatia* to the west of *Ptoleotan*, and both on the *Sinus Vararis*, in the country of the *Vacomagi*, or province of *Moray*. He delineates the *Tueffis*, or river *Spey*, with accuracy, and has the station of *Tueffis* at the mouth of the river. He also inserts in his treatise, an itinerary of a Roman officer; from which he gives a variety of routes, different from those of *Antoninus*, and describes two from *Ptoleotan*, on the *Moray Firth*:

one along the sea coast to *Luguballium*, or Carlisle; and the other by *Varis*, or Forres, and *Tamea*, or Braemar Castle, to *Isca Dumnoniorum*, or Exeter. The distances were effaced in the manuscript, between many places; but in so far as regards the province of Moray, they are—between *Selinam*, or Banff, and the station of *Tueffis*, *xxviii m. p.*—from that to *Ptoroton*, the number is wanting. By the inland route, *Ptoroton* is *viii. m. p.* from *Varis*—from *Varis* to the river *Tueffis*, are *xviii m. p.*—from that to *Tamea*, are *xxxvii m. p.*

There can be no doubt that Richard's *Varis* is Forres. It appears by the direction and distance. The provincial mode of pronouncing the name at this day is *Farris*, and every one knows, that *F* and *V* are synonymous letters.

The map is singular. What stamps it with value and authenticity, and demonstrates that Richard had his materials from the purest sources, is, that the places he has laid down as Roman stations in Scotland, not only correspond with Ptolemy, but have been verified by Roman works at or near them. He mentions some not taken notice of by Ptolemy, as that one near Stonehaven, and calls it *immane castrum*. Nay, his map has discovered a Roman station, near the Cairns of Tarbet Ness in Ross-shire, which he calls *ara finium imperij Romani*, and which, before its publication, was not considered in that light; but now, upon investigation, indicates the labours of a foreign people, the Romans.

Though these cairns and that station are not within the limits of the province of Moray, it is not improper to give a short description of them.

There are two cairns. The western one is raised about five or six feet, on a base of seventy-two feet in circumference; and upon that is built a small pyramid, six feet broad at the bottom, and elevated a few feet. This cairn is called *Ulli-vacum*. The other is east from the first cairn about two hundred paces, and is of a similar shape, on a base of only half the circumference, but rises to much about the same height. It is called *Spadie-lingum*. They are both constructed without any art, of earth and the common muir stones.

A mile to the north-west of them, is a place on the sea shore called *Port-a-chaifel*, where there is an excellent small harbour, and on a rising ground that commands it, are the vestiges of a military

litary station, surrounded with two ditches, twenty feet asunder, and each of them twelve feet wide. The circumference of the area inclosed by the inner ditch is about an hundred feet, from which runs southward a rampart, about a quarter of a mile in length, with many curves and angles in it.

Near the outer ditch, and not far from the point of the rock, and above the harbour, is a square fortification, about one hundred paces of a side. Through the muir, near a mile round, are scattered many circular figures, about forty feet in circumference, with ramparts running from them southwards, in the same stile as in the one mentioned before. This square has every appearance of a *Prætorium* and camp. The other works have probably been barracks for hutting the troops, or constructed by an opposing enemy.

He mentions, in his map and description of Caledonia, a province, which the Romans occupied for a short time, that extended from Agricola's *prætentura*, between the Forth and Clyde, to the *aræ finium imperij Romani*. It had the name of *Vespasiana* from the imperial family, and was probably conquered in the reign of Domitian. Under the Emperor Theodosius, it was named *Thule*. Richard is singular in mentioning this province, as no ancient writer, nor any of the middle ages, that have been published, mention it.

Though Richard's testimony of this fact stands alone, instead of being disregarded, it ought to have great weight, as in every other particular he is well informed, and has been faithful to such of his authorities as are published, which we have an opportunity of examining. But independently of this, partiality may be indulged to his relation, when we recollect the remains of the Romans that have been discovered within the limits of the *Provincia Vespasiana*. They demonstrate their progress through the whole of its extent, however short time they maintained possession of it. This Richard allows was the case, only from *Domitian's* reign to near the end of *Marcus Aurelius's*, when the Romans finally lost it, till it was recovered for a short period by *Severus*.

May it not be conjectured, that Agricola's fleet, in circumnavigating the island, touched at *Ptoroton*, *Banatia*, and *Tarbet Ness*; that Lucullus fortified them and *Tamea*, and so carried the

Roman

Roman arms by land, from Fialystone hill to the northern limits of the *Provincia Vespasiana*.

The Romans soon relinquished the possession of this province, as, in its uncultivated state, and exposed to the vigorous attacks of the Caledonians, then crowded among the hills, it was not worth holding. This accounts for the only remains they left in it, and province of Moray being of the military kind. Inscriptions, baths, and military roads, are the works of peaceable times and permanent settlement.

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§. 2. *Vitrified Forts.*

IN the province of Moray, as well as in other parts of Scotland, our ancestors adopted various modes of building structures with stone, for defence. Many of them bear marks of great antiquity, but, from their different styles of architecture, appear to have been executed at very different periods. Where the stone could be quarried in square blocks, or split into thin coats, they used dry stone, without any cement, as in many places of Ross, Sutherland, and Caithness, and at *Dun-Jardel* on the south side of Loch Ness, about two miles to the eastward of the Fall of Fyres. This was also the mode at *Dun-Evan* and *Castle-Finlay*, in the county of *Nairn*, with the addition of earth. These, with many others, were so situated, as the one could be seen from the other, and formed a chain of fortified hills, that commanded the view of an extensive tract of country, to communicate alarm, when necessary. *Dun-Evan* and *Castle-Finlay* could be seen from *Craig-Phadrick*, near *Innerness*. On the north side of Loch Ness is *Dun-Sgredin*, discernible also from *Craig-Phadrick*. *Dun-Jardel* is distinctly seen from *Dun-Sgredin*. Near *Fort Augustus* is *Tor-Dun*, which is distinguishable from *Dun-Jardel*. *Knock Farril* in *Ross* is visible from *Craig-Phadrick*. They are all built on the summit of hills of a conic figure.

Fortified chains of communication were usual in the north of Scotland at a much later period, when lime was used as a cement. One in particular begins in the province of Moray, and runs from the *Burgh* to the east sea, by the castles of *Duffus*, *Elgye*, *Gauldwall*, *Achindown*, *Shenwall* in the *Cabrach*, *Canmore* on

Deeside, and the *Garran*, at the foot of the Grampians in the Mearns.

The most singular of all those ancient fortifications, are those brought first under public notice by Mr. John Williams, a mineral engineer, in the year 1777. He adopted a theory, that their walls were the work of art, and cemented together by the means of fire, which imperfectly vitrified the stones, with which they had been built. This hypothesis was uncommon, and estimated at first as visionary. Several intelligent persons judged, that the masses of semi-vitrified matter were volcanic effects, of the nature of tufas. Upon a more accurate investigation of these ruins, they bear the decided marks of human industry, and the burnt substance appears to be a mixture of fusible with infusible substances. There is no appearance of pumice stone, nor have all the materials undergone a change by fire.

There is one of these extraordinary structures in the province of Moray, *Craig-Phadrick*, near Inverness. It has been most accurately explored by the ingenious Mr. Tytler; and the result of his researches is published in the second volume of the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

From this account it appears, that *Craig-Phadrick* is a small conical hill, on the north-west side of Loch Ness, about a mile to the north of Inverness. It commands a prospect on both sides of the Moray Firth, to the distance of forty miles. On the west side, is a road cut by art through the rock, from the bottom to the summit, about ten feet broad, and nearly the same depth. It winds in an easy serpentine direction about seventy feet, to gain an easy ascent to the top. On reaching the summit of the hill by the winding road, and a few feet below the rampart which crowns the top of the hill, there appears an outward wall, surrounding the whole, which approaches on the sides of the hill so near to the upper rampart, as to leave only a trench of ten or twelve feet in width between them; unless at the west extremity, where this outward wall extends itself to a greater distance from the inner rampart, and forms a level platform, of something of a semi-circular shape, about forty yards in length, and fifteen at its greatest breadth.

The outward wall is in many places so low, as to be almost level with the rock, though in other places it rises to the height of two or three feet; but even where it is lowest, the marks of it may

be traced, by a line of vitrified matter sticking fast to the rock, all along nearly of the same breadth, which in most places is about nine feet. The remains of this wall are strongly vitrified, unless in one place, on the north side, where, for about seventy yards, the rampart is formed only of dry stones and earth. On this quarter, the steepness of the rock superseded the necessity of much artificial operation, there being little hazard that an assault would ever be attempted on it.

Every-where else, this outward wall appears completely vitrified; and at the east side, where the hill is more accessible, and the declivity more gradual, there is a prodigious mound of vitrified matter, extending itself to the thickness of above forty feet. At the south-east corner, and adjoining to this immense mound, is an out-work, consisting of two semicircular vitrified walls, with a narrow pass cut through them in the middle. This appears to have been another and the principal entry to the fort. It was necessary that there should be two entries: one from the level ridge which joins this hill, on the west, to that chain of which it forms the extremity: the other, from the low country to the east. The entry to the west was defended by four enormous stones, placed by art in such a manner, that a very few men could tumble them into the hollow road, and so block it up, that the pass could easily be defended by a few against any number of assailants. The entry towards the east did not admit of a defence of the same kind, but was secured by three ramparts; and the opening through the semi-circular out-work was made so narrow, as to be easily defended.

The inner wall surrounded the summit of the hill, and inclosed a level space of the form of an oblong square, about seventy-five yards in length, and thirty in breadth. It is rounded at each of the ends, like the outward wall. This inner wall is nearly of the same thickness with the outward one, and is of considerable height. There is some appearance, that it had four bastions or turrets, as at regular distances the wall enlarges itself considerably in thickness, in a circular figure, like the foundation of a small tower, though perhaps they are only accidental irregularities. Within the inner space, are a number of small earthen *tumuli*, disposed in a circle, with a single stone in the middle, that probably marked the place set apart for the chief. They are at the south-west corner of the oblong square. On the north-east corner, there is a

portion

portion of the internal space, which is separated from the rest by two ranges of stones strongly fixed in the ground, in the form of a parallelogram. Every other part of the inclosed summit has been most carefully cleared from stones. Perhaps it served for the purposes of devotion.

Towards the east end of the large area on the summit, are the vestiges of a well, about six feet in diameter, which has probably been dug deep in the rock, though it is now filled up with rubbish to within a yard of the surface.

Such are the appearances on the summit of *Craig-Phadrick*, which exhibit such unequivocal marks of artificial operation, that a difference of opinion concerning their origin can scarcely be conceived.

Mr. Tytler also examined the fortified hill of *Dun-Evan* in the county of Nairn. On the summit of that hill, there have been two walls or ramparts, surrounding a level space, of the same oblong form with that on *Craig-Phadrick*, though not quite so large. There are likewise traces of a well within the inclosed area, and at the east end there are remains of an immense mound, or mass of buildings, much more extensive than that which are to be remarked upon the former hill. The form of these operations is perfectly similar to those on *Craig-Phadrick*; but there are no marks of vitrification, or the effects of fire, so far as could be perceived.

He likewise visited *Dun-Jardel*, another fortified hill. The inclosed area on its top is an oblong square, of twenty-five yards in length, and fifteen in breadth. It is smaller than any of the other two fortified hills; but, from its situation and form, must have been, in the periods it was resorted to for defence, quite impregnable. The area on the summit is levelled, cleared of stones, and has the remains of a well. It is surrounded with a very strong wall of dry stones, which has formerly been of great height and thickness, as may be conjectured from the prodigious quantity of stones that have fallen only from one side of the fortification, and has rested upon the level ridge on the south side.

The mode of constructing these vitrified fortifications can now be only conjectured from the present appearances, as their æra is lost in remote antiquity, neither tradition nor history giving any hint of it. Mr. Tytler supposes, with a degree of probability,

that the building was begun by raising a double row of strong stakes, of the figure of the proposed structure, interlaced with branches of trees, laid very closely together, so as to form two fences running parallel to each, and so compact as to confine all the materials, of whatever nature or size, thrown in between them. Into this intermediate space, were thrown trunks and boughs of trees, and stones of all sizes, as they could be collected. The outward fences would keep the mound in form. In this way a strong bulwark might be reared; which, joined to the natural advantage of an inaccessible situation, would form a defence answering every purpose of security. Fire would be the most formidable engine of attack against a structure of this kind, and no doubt would be often successfully employed by a besieging enemy. If there happened to be any wind at the time, to increase the intensity of the heat, the stony parts could not fail to come into fusion; and the wood sinking away, there would remain a solid mass of vitrified matter, tracking the spot where the original rampart had stood. This wreck would be of an irregular and unequal height, from the unequal distribution of the composing stony materials.

This conjecture is supported by a late examination of *Finella's Castle*, near Balbegno in the Mearns, where, on cutting a trench, and piercing the outer embankment down till it came to the original soil, the embankment was found to consist of a mound of stones, of no very considerable size, none of which had the appearance of suffering by fire. Carrying on this trench to the foundation of the main or innermost bulwark, there were found the most decisive marks of human industry. It consisted of flat stones, from four to six feet in length, piled above each other, to the height of about four feet, and breadth of three, with a symmetry more exact than could have been expected. This foundation formed a casing, within which were piled roundish stones, diminishing gradually in size to the top. On all this mass, the effects of fire were very visible. At the bottom, there were found quantities of charcoal; but these effects were much less remarkable below, and appeared more and more strong upon the higher stones, till it came to the top, where the mass was completely vitrified. The lower part, being composed of large stones, would suffer little from the heat; the middle part, more; but the uppermost, if their substance admitted of it, would be actually vitrified, both from the size and situation,

situation, the fire always acting upwards, and the charcoal that found its way to the bottom of the mass, would not be totally consumed.

It has been suggested as probable, that the effect of fire on these hill fortifications has been entirely accidental, or, to speak more properly, that the fire has been employed not in the construction, but towards the demolition of such buildings. This may indeed have been the case; but if the report is true, of the discovery said to be made at the Castle-hill of Finhaven in Angus, it is almost certain, that fire has been employed as an engine in the construction of these vitrified buildings.

The inclosed space on the summit of the Castle-hill of *Finhaven* is of much greater extent than that upon *Craig-Phadrick* or *Dun-Evan*. The area is about one hundred and forty yards in length, and above forty in breadth. The vitrified remains of a rampart are extremely visible all round the summit, which is cleared of stones, and levelled, except at one end, where there is a large hollow space, separated from the rest of the area. The remains of structure upon this hill are, in other respects, nearly similar to those on *Craig-Phadrick* and *Dun-Evan*.

It has been said, that a little time ago, in opening several tumuli on the summit of this hill, several of them were heaps of such stones as had been employed in the building, and piled up for use; that others of them were the *plumb-pudding* stone, such as is near Stonehaven, and along the sea-coast, broken into small pieces, and all the pebbles and water-worn fragments of granite carefully picked out. It is well known, that this material, when exposed to the fire, suffers an imperfect vitrification; and when mingled with the bullet, and other stones, and exposed to the fire, would form a cement, to unite them into one common mass. This discrimination of materials, founded in the uses to which they may be applied, argues design, and a certain knowledge of mineralogy. It is to be wished, that some accurate and intelligent person would examine into the fact; and if it turns out as is reported, would throw great light on the industry and ingenuity of our ancestors.

It is to be observed, that the stone which composes the whole hill of *Craig-Phadrick* is *plumb-pudding*; and if this is not the case at the Castle-hill of Finhaven, yet immense quantities of it

are

are in the neighbourhood; and probably it will be found, that this stone is in the vicinity of all those vitrified forts.

On the whole, after every inquiry, the conjectures as to the mode of erecting these ancient fortifications must be uncertain; and equally, if not more doubtful, must be every research about the æra of their construction. It certainly was in remote antiquity, and before the Romans penetrated into the country, as there is no mortar employed in them, the use of which as a cement the Britons and Caledonians were instructed in by the Romans.

Some additional conjectures might be hazarded; but the limited nature of this work forbids it: so some other ancient monuments become the subject of another section.

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§. 3. *Obelisks.*

THERE are a few of these in the province of Moray, but particularly that called the *Forres Pillar*, near a mile to the north-east of that town. It far surpasses in magnificence and grandeur the other obelisks in Scotland, and is perhaps the most stately monument of the kind in Europe.

On the east side of it, there are several divisions, each of them charged with different sculptured ornaments. At the top are Gothic ornaments; and in the first division underneath, are nine horses, with their riders, marching in order. In the next, is a line of warriors on foot, brandishing their weapons. The appearance of the third is dubious, the expression being indefinite. In the fourth, several men, armed with spears, appear to guard a canopy, under which are human heads, that appear to have belonged to bodies piled up on the left of the division. In the fifth, appears a body of horse, followed by men on foot; the first line having bows and arrows, and the three last, swords and targets. In the next and lowermost division now visible, the appearance is of horses feized, their riders beheaded, with their heads thrown under an arched cover.

The west side of the obelisk is chiefly occupied by a magnificent crois, and also is covered over with an uniform figure, elaborately raised,

raised, and interwoven with great art and accuracy, that has the appearance of Runic knots. Under the cross, are two figures, no doubt representing two august personages, bending forward to each other, evidently in the attitude of friendship.

On the north edge, are some curious carvings, and below are rows of human figures, joined hand in hand, as a token of amity and confidence.

This pillar or obelisk is above twenty feet in height, and four in breadth. Various are the opinions formed about the transaction it refers to, and the æra of its erection, and there remains only room for endless conjecture. It certainly was erected to preserve the remembrance of an event of national and general importance.

Torfeus, in his Orcades, p. 12. mentions, that after the year 900, Sigurd, Earl of Orkney, aided by the Norwegians, conquered Caithness, Sutherland, Ross, Moray, by his general *Helgy*, and built a town in the south part of Moray. This shows that they had settled a colony, and established themselves in Moray.

Buchanan mentions, that in the beginning of the eleventh century, under the reign of Malcolm II. the Danes landed in Moray, and defeated the royal army. They seized the castles of Nairn, Forres, and Elgin, and the Burgh, and sent for their wives and children. They were afterwards defeated at Mortlich; but, on their retreat into Moray, Malcolm did not pursue, his troops having suffered so severely. It is probable in some degree, that at this time, a treaty of peace was concluded on between the Scots and Danes, and that this obelisk was set up to keep the remembrance of it alive. The sculptures represent battles with great slaughter, and a treaty of peace between the two leaders of the belligerent powers. This colony of Danes or Norwegians remained in the province of Moray, and probably from their disaffection were so turbulent, till the *Moravientes* were scattered over Scotland at a later period.

In his account of these transactions, Buchanan appears not to have had an accurate idea of the geography of the country. He confounds the *Burgh*, the Roman *Ptoeroton*, with *Nairn*; and the obelisk he mentions, as erected on the defeat of Camus, is probably the one at Forres, as there are no appearances of any having been erected at a village, in the vicinity of the Burgh, still called the *Cam*.

Some

Some few years ago, in levelling and new-paving the streets of Forres, there was found, near the cross, a good depth under the sand, a medallion of a compound substance, and chocolate colour, about $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, and $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch thickness. On the one side, stood an elegant female figure, not like an armed goddess, but rather in a civic Roman dress, yet having in her hand a javelin or lance, reversed, with its point touching the earth. She stood between two altars. On the one, there seemed to be incense burning, and on the other, a dish like a Roman *ferculum*. On the back ground of this side, was an imitation of one or two distant fleets, and the inscription upon this side was **CONSERVAT UTRAMQUE**. On the other side, two warriors in the Roman dress (the short vestment of one of them seeming to be party-coloured, by a faint appearance of chequering), were in the act of heaping on warlike instruments or trophies on a globe. The inscription upon this side was **DURUS PRÆLATA TROPÆIS**. It was imagined, that the artist had by mistake put **DURUS** for **DURIS**, because with such a small change, the two inscriptions spoke sense and grammar, and chimed into one hexameter verse:

Conseruat utramque; duris prælata tropæis.

It seemed natural to suppose, that the female figure, with her lance pointed down, was an emblem of peace, which had preserved two fleets or nations, and that the invaders and invaded had mutually preferred the blessings of peace to their hard-won trophies, and sealed their treaty of amity by such offerings on the altars, as were suitable to their respective modes of worship.

This medallion was transmitted to the Secretary of the Antiquarian Society at Edinburgh, requesting to have the opinion of that body; but they never took the proper notice of either the one or the other.

Had it been found near the obelisk at Forres, it might possibly have been connected with that pillar; but such connexion is so uncertain, that it is impossible to decide with precision.

There is another obelisk, in the parish of Alves, to the east of *Instellie*, about ten feet high; but it has no carvings, and even tradition is silent as to the cause of its erection.

It may not be improper to mention in this section, that in different

ferent mairs, all over the province of Meray, there are immense numbers of cairns, or *tumuli* of stones; and the uniform tradition is, that skirmishes were fought there: which proves the military habits of our ancestors, either in repelling invasions, or by deadly internal feuds. Some of them are called *Cairn Tochach*, the general's cairn.



§. 4. *Fortis.*

THERE was a royal castle at Elgyn, as appears by a charter from King William the Lyon, in the chartulary of Moray, to Richard, bishop of Moray, in which he grants to the bishop liberty to erect a miln on Loffy, *subtus castellum meum de Elgyn*, now called Bishopmiln. This charter was given about 1188.

It is uncertain when this fort was built. The ruins are visible on the summit of a small hill now called Lady-Hill, at the west end of the town, on the north side. The area on the top is flat, and is eighty-five yards in length, by forty-five in breadth. By the ruins it appears, that the walls were built with stone and mortar of limestone, and were thick and strong. An outside wall surrounded the summit of the hill, and from the remains of the interior buildings, it appears that the castle was a square. There are some appearances of a well.

The Earls of Moray were constables of this fort, had the customs of the town, with the castle-lands, as their salary, and are always proprietors of the Lady-Hill. It is uncertain when it fell into ruin.

The castle at *Forres* was situated at the west end of the town, and probably was a similar edifice to that at Elgyn. It is said, that King Duffus was murdered in this fort about the 966, by Donald, governor of the castle, and that it was then razed to the ground. Be this as it may, John Randolph, Earl of Moray, had a castle here, and dated some of his charters from it, in 1346; particularly one to John Grawnt and his heirs, by which he conveyed to him the lands of Dovely.

The family of *Westfield*, descended of the last Dunbar, Earl of Moray, long preserved the property of the castle and castle lands, till they were lately sold to Sir James Grant of Grant.

There was also a royal castle at *Nairn*, built by King William the Lyon, sometime between the 1182 and 1197, to protect the country from the insurrections in Ross and Caithness, that were frequent in that interval. In fol. 38. r. of the chartulary of Moray, King Alexander II. confirms to Bricius, bishop of Moray, the lands which his father King William gave in exchange for that land at Innernaren he took *ad firmandum in ea castellum et burgum de Innernaren*, to erect a castle, and establish the burgh of Nairn. The fort was built on the west bank of the river, a little above the present bridge. The river and a precipice protected it on the one side, and a ditch and rampart on the other sides. The Thanes of Calder were heritable constables of it, until Mr. Campbell sold it in 1747 to Government, in consequence of the jurisdiction act.

The local situation of *Innerness*, in the mouth of the Highlands, always pointed it out as a proper place of defence, to check the restless dispositions of the surrounding country. With this view, the fortification on *Craig-Phadrick* was erected, and the Romans fortified *Banatia*; and our historians mention, that a castle was uniformly at Innerness, through a long series of years.

There was an ancient one, close by the river Ness, that commanded the town. There are no vestiges of its ruins remaining, but a ditch and rampart on three sides. About the beginning of the sixteenth century, the Earl of Huntly was appointed heritable constable of it, with an extensive grant of castle-lands, the greatest part of which is now the property of the Laird of MacIntosh, as the price of his ancestor's blood, murdered at Huntly Castle in 1550. Oliver Cromwell in 1651 begun the citadel of Innerness, called Oliver's Fort, and finished it next year. It stood on the east bank of the river, near the mouth of it, and was a regularly fortified pentagon. In 1662 it was demolished by order of Government.

Fort George was begun on the Castle-hill of Innerness, soon after the 1715, by repairing the old castle, and building barracks, with a house for the governor, and surrounding the whole with a strong wall. The 19th of February 1746, it was reduced, after a short siege, by the rebels.

There was a royal fort, twelve miles to the west of Innerness, in *Urquhart*, built on a rock, hanging over the Loch. It was strongly

strongly fortified in the style of the times. The Earls of Ross had the command of it for a long time, and the estate of Urquhart as castle-lands. James IV. gave them to the family of Grant, whose property they continue to be.

In 1303 Edward I. of England reduced this fort. In 1334 Robert Lauder defended it against the English forces.

Lochindorb was a royal fort, situated on an island in a loch of that name, between Forres and Strathspey. This island is but small, and is surrounded with a wall, that inclosed several stone buildings. Edward I. of England in 1303 traversed Scotland with his troops, and came in person to Lochindorb in September, where and at Kinloss he remained for some time, and received the submission of the northern parts of the kingdom.

In 1336 Edward III. of Windsor, with Edward Baliol, came to Perth; and King Edward III. with a chosen body of his army, in August marched over the hills to Lochindorb, then besieged by Andrew Moray, governor of the kingdom. He raised the siege, and takes out of the castle, the wife, and the heir of David, Earl of Athole, that the Brucians had nearly taken prisoners. He then comes to Elgyn, which he burns, except the churches, and houses of the ecclesiastics. He laid waste the whole country, and destroys Aberdeen, after leaving a garrison in Lochindorb. This account is given by Fordun, who also relates, that the celebrated William Bullock, who abandoned the cause of Baliol, and acquired honours under King David II. was accused of treason, and died of cold and hunger in this castle. After this its history is lost in uncertainty, except that the Earl of Moray in 1606 sold it to Campbell of Calder.

Fort Augustus, built by Government about the 1730, is situated at the south end of Lochness, in the point between the rivers Eoich and Tarf, where they empty themselves into the Loch. The rebels demolished it in 1745; but it has been since rebuilt, and surrounded with a fosse and ramparts. A small galley is kept on Lochness, for conveying stores to this fort.

The barrack of *Ruthven* in Badenoch was begun to be built about the 1718, where the ruins of an old castle were. In February 1746, Serjeant Mulloy, after a gallant resistance, with only twelve men, obtained an honourable capitulation from the rebels, who burned the barrack.

Fort George at Ardersier was begun to be built about 1748, and completed, after several years labour, and an enormous expence. It is an irregular pentagon, fortified after the last and most improved manner. It is also strong by situation, as no grounds command it, nearer than an English mile; and the nature of the earth is such, that it cannot be approached by mines or sapping. It commands the approach from the sea by batteries *en rasant*. From 3 to 4000 troops can be accommodated in the barracks and bomb-proof casemates. It is completely furnished with cannon and ammunition of every kind.

Besides these royal forts, or castles, there were in the province, several places of defence, erected by the feudal barons in ancient times.

The castle of *Duffus* was placed on a small mount, that has every appearance of being artificial, and was at first an island, when the loch of *Spynie* was an arm of the sea, which it was after 1383. By the ruins, it appears to have been a square, inclosed by walls of immense thickness, and some outer works. It was built by the powerful family of the *Freskyns de Moravia*, or *Murref*, and certainly before the 1200.

There was a place of defence at *Rothes*, far back; but it is uncertain when the house, or castle, prefently in ruins, was built. It is set down on high ground, connected with the fields by a narrow neck of land, that has been cut by a deep ditch, over which had been a draw-bridge. The keep of the castle was several stories high, and vaulted to the top. There were a number of low buildings, but all inclosed with an high wall, and a draw-well within. About 130 years ago, the country people burned it to the ground, to prevent its continuing to be a retreat of thieves and banditti, who pillaged the neighbouring estates.

On an insulated slip of ground, hanging over the small stream of *Alderny*, on the farm of *Gauldwall*, are the ruins of the castle of *Boharm*, or, as it was anciently called, *Buckarin*. It had been a large pile of building, that fronted east, and measured, inside the walls, 119 feet by 24. Fifty years ago, the walls were tolerably entire, to the height of several stories; but now they have fallen into great decay. They were eight feet thick, and built in frames, and grouted with lime mortar. The windows are only 20 inches wide on the outside. A partition wall so divided it,

that,

that, on the ground floor, two halls were formed, the one 54 feet in length, the other 65. About fifty yards north, are the ruins of a domestic chapel; that William, son of William Freskynij of Duffus, built, with the consent of Bricius, bishop of Moray, between 1203 and 1222. It was inside 24 feet by 12. This chapel was neglected, when king James, about 1618, with a design to promote civilization, built many churches in the north of Scotland, as at Inneraven, Knockando, and Boharm. The parish of Boharm was then new-modelled, from some parts of the ancient parsonage of Arndilly, or Artindol. The whole of these buildings were constructed of free stone, which must have been a work of great labour and expence; as there are no stone of that quality nearer than Duffus, at the distance of twenty miles.

The castle of *Balvenie*, now in ruins, was built by John Stewart, Earl of Athole, who obtained the lordship of Balvenie from his uterine brother, King James II. in 1460. It has been a large and magnificent building, inclosed within an high wall, with turrets at each of the four corners. The Athole coat of arms is carved on the front, with the motto, *Furth fortune, and fill the fetters.*

Neither history nor tradition inform when the castle of *Achindown* was built; but it may be conjectured to have been one of those castles erected between the 1000 and 1200, for protecting the country, and preserving a communication from one side of the island to the other, on invasions or internal disturbances. There is nothing particular in its structure, but, built on a rising ground, has been very tenable. The MacIntoshs, in revenge of their chieftain's murder in 1550, burned it soon after; but it was afterwards repaired, though now in ruins.

The castle of *Terneway*, or, as it is called in the charters of John Randolph, Earl of Moray, *his tower and manor-house*, was begun by Thomas Randolph, and has always remained in the possession of the Earls of Moray, now being their residence in the north. It is an irregular edifice, built at different times. Thomas Randolph at first built the great baronial hall, a most magnificent and extensive apartment, 78 feet by 40, that forms an immense area of 3120 feet. The side walls originally were from 40 to 50 in height; but James Earl of Moray, son of him who was murdered at Duni-brisle, erected vaults for domestic accommodation in the low part, from 10 to 12 feet high. This shut up the original entrance to the

the hall, and at the east end he erected a stair-case for a new one. The floor is laid with free-stone slabs; and at some distance from the chimney in the west end, is a moulding, within which the floor is raised several inches. On this elevated space, the *Comes*, or Earl, with the great feudal barons, sat; and the vassals and retainers occupied the lower part of the hall, agreeable to their rank and consequence.

The original roof remains, and is either of oak or Spanish chestnut, which, though now neglected, was once a common wood in Scotland, and often employed for roofing in many private and public buildings in the kingdom.

The structure of the roof is pure Norman; by which, with great ingenuity, a roof is thrown over a wide building, without employing great logs of wood, or any above ten feet long, and six inches square.

Some derive the name *Tarnetway* from *Taran*, thunderer, on a supposition that *Jupiter Tarans* was worshipped there. It is more probably to be deduced from a corruption of the Erse name of *Randulph*, as the bridge of *Rannich* in the neighbourhood is evidently from that.

The castle of *Ruthven* in Badenoch stood on a neck of high ground, that stretched out into a marshy plain, where it terminated into a conical mount, the site of the building. The area on the top was 100 yards by 30. The south wall was nine feet thick, the other walls were four feet, with two turrets at the angles of the north end. It was the seat of Comyn, Lord of Badenoch.

There were many other fortalices, or strong towers, in different parts of the province, erected at different periods by royal licences, as *Calder* in 1454, or by permission of their feudal lords, as the tower of *Kilravock* in 1460, by order of the Earl of Ross. The greatest number were erected in the reign of King James II. when the rebellion of the Earls of Douglas, Crawford, Ross, &c. had convulsed the kingdom.



§. 5. Religious Houses.

KING David I. in 1125 founded the priory of *Urquhart*, in the county of Moray. It was a cell of the monastery of Dumfermling, and occupied by Benedictine monks, called Black Monks, from

from the colour of their habit. It was liberally endowed with lands, now called the lordship of Urquhart, the village of Fothopir, or Fochabers, a fishing on Spey, with a fishing that belonged to the Thane of Fothopir, Penid near Auldearn, the lands of Dalcross, &c., with all the rights that belonged to the monks of Dumfermling in Moray. If there was a chartulary, it is now lost, and there is no account of its revenues. The ruins of the buildings are to be discovered with difficulty, in a hollow north-east of the present church of Urquhart.

Alexander Seton in 1591 was created Lord Urquhart, and Earl of Dumfermling 1605. As commendator, he obtained the lands of the priory. James Earl of Dumfermling was forfeited, 1690. His creditors secured the lordship of Urquhart and Fyvie. The Duke of Gordon bought Urquhart, and Lord Aberdeen, Fyvie, soon after 1730, at a judicial sale.

The abbey of *Kinloss* was founded by King David I. agreeable to Ferrerius' MSS. history, in 1141. It was confirmed by a papal bull in 1174. The monks were of the Cistercian order, brought from Melros, called *monachi albi*, as their dress was white, with a black hood and scapulary.

King David endowed it liberally, and William the Lyon granted to it the lands of Strathyla near Keith, where at Grange, one of their farms, Thomas Chrystall, abbot, built a tower and fortalice in 1525, which is now razed for the foundation of a new church to the parish of Grange. King Alexander II. in 1221 gave the lands of Burgy.

In 1216 there belonged to it, the farm of Kinloss, West Grange, one in Crumbachin, Banff, Inverness, Nairn, Forres, Elgyn, Aberdeen, and Berwick. At the Reformation, they held many other estates, for which Brodie of Lethin, come in place of the abbot, has feu-duties: as the barony of Muirtown, Miln of Kinloss, Windyhills, Coltfield, West Grange and Miln, Burgie, Hemprigs, the crofts of Kinloss, Kirktown lands of Ordies, Freefield near Dundurcas, Struthers, Tanachies, Fishings of Forres, Burdfyards, Kin-corths, Fishings of Grangehill and Coubin, Newtown near Nairn, Stryla, Lichnet, Kinminie, Edingeith, Glengerrick, Lands in Ellon, besides Lethin's estate in Kinloss, and the precinct of the Abbey. Mr. Shaw states the revenues in 1561 to be L. 1152. 18. Scots—47 chalders of bear and meal, 11 bolls, 1 firlot, 3 pecks—oats,

oats, 10 bushels, 3 firlets—34 wadders, 41 geese, 60 capons, 125 poultry.

Ferrerius, in his history of the abbots, states the revenue in 1499, when Thomas Chryftall became abbot, to be, from the barony of Kinloss, 114 marks Scots; from Finderen, 20 marks; from the barony of Strathily, 147 marks; from the town of Leithnot, 6 marks; from the town of Freefield, 4 marks; from Dun-durcas, 10 marks; from the church of Ellon, 252; from the church of Awache in Rofs, 72 marks; in all, 632—in grain from the barony of Kinloss, 8 chalders, 2 bolls; from Strathily, 7 chalders; from their fishings, 2 lasts of salmon; by feu-duties and rents from Elgyn, 2 marks; by rents from Inniernes and Forres, 60 marks—all which he doubled in a few years.

There is a charter granted by Walter, abbot of Kinloss in 1559, 12th September, with express consent of the members of the convent, by which he dispenses to Euphame Dundas their lands in Strathili, for the sum of L. 2000 Scots, paid in ready money, with L. 5. 10s. Scots of augmentation of rent, to be holden of the abbot and convent of Kinloss, for payment of certain duties and rents, contained in a rental. As this rental throws some light on the value of land, with the nature of the rents paid, at that period, it is inserted.

And failing victual, there was to be paid for every boll of meal, 10s. Scots, and for every boll of oats, 5s. Scots, in the option of Eupharme Dundafs.

Ferrerius mentions, that in his time there were twenty, or more monks, who, over and above their ancient allowance, received from abbot Chrystall on flesh days four pennies, and on meagre days, one penny; and instead of oat cakes, thirty-two ounces of wheat bread daily.

Mr. Shaw states the annual expence of each monk to be 50s. for their clothes; ten peanies a-day for fish and flesh; for lentron meat, fire, butter, candle, and spicery, twelve pound; for meat and drink, nineteen bolls, one firlot, two pecks.

It appears from Ferrerius, that they had a great number of excellent buildings; but his description conveys no idea of their arrangement. There was a dormitory, refectory, hospital, brew-house, kitchen, pigeon house, an excellent garden, and other domestic accommodations. The church was large, ornamented with paintings, statues, organs, and altars, to St. Jerome, St. Anne, the Virgin, St. Thomas, and other saints. The steeple of the church fell in 1574. In 1651 and 1652 Brodie of Lethin, who bought the lands and feu-duties from Edward Bruce, at first commendator, and created in 1603¹ Lord Kinloch, sold most of the materials for building the citadel at Inverness. The remaining part of the stones were, some years ago, employed in building a granary, by a descendant of this Alexander Brodie, and now there are almost no ruins of the edifices to be seen.

The furniture was ample and splendid. There were fifty feather beds in the monastery, and twenty-eight arras coverings, and two silk beds. The table was supplied with vessels of pewter, brought from England at a great expence. They appear to have been hospitable, as they lived in a plentiful country. From records in the monastery, it appears, that the English, about 1303, when they occupied it, consumed yearly sixty chalders of malt.

King Edward I. in 1303 resided at Kinloch from the 20th of September to the 10th of October.

They did not totally neglect learning, as there was a library, and, among others, the following books: The Old and New Testaments, in six volumes, with the glosses commonly in use; four volumes of Vincent; three of the Chronicle of Antoninus; three

of the Epistles of St. Jerome; the works of St. Jerome, in five volumes; two of the works of Ambrose; four of the works of Chrysostom; one of Gregory; another of Bernard; one of the Sum of Aquinas; two of Scotus' Commentary on the Sentences; two of John Major's on the Sentences; two of Aquinas' Commentary on the Epistles of St. Paul; one of Augustine's on the City of God; one of Augustine on the Trinity; the whole *Jus Pontificium*, with glosses; with many books of Sermons; and two volumes, wrote on parchment, of Missals; the one a gradual, the other copied from that of Culross.

Ferrerius came into Scotland, at the solicitation of Robert Reid, in 1520, and resided with him at court three years. He obtained an annual pension of L. 40 Scots, on the revenues of Kinloss, and, after 1523, resided there five years, instructing the monks by private lectures. The subjects of these lectures were derived from Melanthon's Syntaxis, Cicero's Offices, Erasmus' *Copia*, the Dialectics of George Trapezuntius, the *Parva Logica* of Faber Stapulensis, the books of Aristotle of the Heavens and the World, from Stapulensis' Paraphrase, the Predicaments of Aristotle, Melanthon's Institutions of Rhetoric, Cicero's Oration for Milo, Virgil's Pastorals, the second and sixth books of Virgil's *Aeneid*, Rodolphus Agricola of Logical Invention, the fourth book of Peter Lombard's Sentences, the Heavenly Hierarchy of St. Dionysius, with his Mystical Theology, and Ecclesiastical Hierarchy.

A List of the Abbots of Kinloss from Ferrerius.

Anselm	1141	ob. 1157	Adam	-	-	ob. —
Andrew	-	ob. 1189	Richard	-	-	ob. 1371.
Rainerius	-	ob. 1219	Adam de Teras	ob.	1401.	
Rodolph	-	ob. 1233	William Blayr	-	ob.	1445.
Richard	-	ob. 1241	John Flutere	-	ob.	1460.
Henry	-	ob. 1251	John Ellen	-	-	ob. 1467.
Thomas	-	ob. 1258	James Guttury	-	ob.	1482.
Symon	-	ob. 1269	William Galbreth	ob.	1491.	
Richard	-	ob. 1289	William Culross	ob.	1504.	
	—	ob. 1303	Thomas Chrystall	ob.	1535.	
Thomas	-	ob. 1321	Robert Reid	-	ob.	1558.
	—	ob. —	Walter Hedon	-	ob. —	

The abbots were mitred, and had a seat in Parliament.

The

The priory of *Pluscarden* was founded in 1230, by King Alexander II. in honour of St. Andrew, the tutelar saint of Scotland, and named *Vallis Sti. Andree*. The monks were Cistercians, first brought into Scotland by Malvoisin, bishop of St. Andrews, and established at this place, Beaulie, and Archattan in Argyle-shire. The convent of Pluscarden was free from episcopal jurisdiction; but becoming licentious, soon after 1460 the white monks were expelled, the black were introduced, and the priory made a cell of Dumfermling.

Their estates and revenues were considerable. They had the glen of Pluscarden, a fertile valley, and picturesque, from the nature of the ground, and clumps of wood. The corn miln, commonly called the Old Milns of Elgyn, was their property. To this miln, the burghage lands were restricted, before the middle of the 13th century; and in 1330, by a contract between the convent and burgesses of Elgyn, this became a very heavy feudal service indeed, as *omnia grana crescentia, cum illatis et inventis*, were to be ground at this miln. These limitations ought to be compromised, and all persons have the faculty of employing millers, as they employ shoemakers and taylors, who execute the work cheapest and best.

They had also lands in the parish of Durris, and a *Grangia*, and cell of monks who superintended their farm and estate of Grangehill, now Dalvey, where they had a small regality of *Stanforenoon*, and a fishing on the river Spey.

Mr. Shaw states the revenue at L.525. 10s. 1d. Scots; 1 chalder, 6 bolls, 2 firlots, wheat; 51 chalders, 4 bolls, 3 firlots, 1 peck, malt, meal and bear; oats, 5 chalders, 13 bolls; dry multures, 9 chalders, 11 bolls; 30 lasts of salmon; with grain, cain, customs, poultry, and services. In 1563 there was allowed to each of five monks, in kething and habite, L.16; and 1 chalder, 5 bolls, in victual.

There is another rental, from which it appears, that their yearly income was L.527. 10d. 1d. Scots; wheat, 1 boll, 1 firlot, 2 pecks; 60 chalders, 4 bolls, 3 firlots, bear; 5 chalders of oats; and 30 lasts of salmon.

The seat of the priory was six miles to the west of Elgin, and appears, from its present state, to have been magnificent and superb, built of free-stone, of which there are inexhaustible quarries

in the vicinity. It is surrounded by a stone wall, about 15 feet high, inclosing an area of ten acres. The distribution of the internal buildings is after the plan of the French priories and convents of that æra.

The first edifice that presents itself is the church, that was originally intended to have been built in the form of a cross. The foundation of the western transept has been laid, but never finished. The plan of the whole had been repeatedly changed, as appears by the windows. Its dimensions are :

	Feet. Inch.
Length of the church from north to south -	94 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
(On the east has been a suite of aisles.)	
Breadth of the church within the aisles - - -	27 8
Breadth, including the aisles - - - -	46 10
Length of the eastern transept - - - -	56 1
Breadth of ditto - - - -	26 4
Contiguous to the church, on the south, is the Lady's, or Virgin's Aisle, extending from E. to W. - - -	56 1
This long narrow vault is in breadth - - - -	13 0
To the south of the Lady's Aisle is the chapter-house, supported by a clustered pillar, an elegant room, illuminated by four very large windows. It is about 30 feet square.	
Contiguous to this, on the south, is a vaulted lobby, leading to a cloistered court on the west.	
Beyond this, to the south, is the kitchen, a large room, supported by two pillars.—Its length - - -	45 6
Breadth - - -	29 8
Beneath the southmost half of the kitchen, was a large vault, employed as a cemetery. The vault has been thrown down long ago; but the hollow space it occupied, and the doors leading to it, are to be seen.	
Contiguous to, and at right angles with the kitchen, on the west, was the refectory, a large hall, in length about - - - - -	94 0
Beneath this there was a range of cellars.	
On the west of the Lady's Aisle and chapter-house, &c. was a cloistered court, for enjoying the benefit of	

Feet. Inch.

of the open air in rainy weather. Its south wall formed by the north wall of the refectory. It

was in - - - - - Length - 99 8
Breadth - 94 4

Along the roofs of the Lady's Aisle, and chapter-house, and kithe[n], was the dormitory—in length 114 2
Breadth - 29 8

It was divided by a paſſage in the middle, into two suites of bed-chambers, in number about thirteen.

At the south-east corner of the kitchen, stood the Prior's house, communicating with the church, by a door in the south-east corner of the dormitory, the paſſage in the middle of which led by another door to the church.

Immediately above the east gate of the gable of the Lady's Aisle, was a chamber, in which the Prior spent the forenoon generally.

Contiguous to the north side of the east transept, and communicating with it by a door, was the vestry, a vaulted building, - - - In length - 16 0
Breadth - 16 0

The garden was well stored with fruit trees, of the best kinds.

A fig tree continued to blossom in it within these few years.

A stream of water was conducted within the precinct wall, that drove the miln for grinding their corns.

The Prior was Lord of Regality within the priory lands. In 1565 Alexander Seton, afterwards Earl of Dumfermling, was commendator of Pluscarden. He sold in 1595 to Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail, the church lands of Durris, Grangehill, and the barony of Pluscarden, with Old Miln, including the *decima garbalia*, or teind shaves of the barony. In 1633 the barony and Old Miln was the property of Thomas, son of Kenneth Mackenzie. From him Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbet obtained them in 1649, who disposed them to Major Bateman. Janet Brodie, wife of Ludovick Grant of Grant, bought them in 1677 for her son James, afterwards Sir James Grant of Grant, who sold them in

1710 to William Duff of Dipple, and they remain the property of Earl Fife.

In the immediate vicinity of Elgyn, was an preceptory and hospital, where preaching brothers and sisters entertained strangers, and fed poor persons. The chartulary of Moray informs, that between 1223 and 1242 Andrew, bishop of Moray, founded this *Domus Dei*, now called *Messindew*, near the brook Taok, and the leper-house of Elgyn, and preserved the presentations to it to his successors in office. Bishop Pilmore in 1343 declares, that he had seen a charter from King Alexander II. prior to 1237, confirmed by King David, by which they acquired the lands of Monbeem and Kelleys. This foundation had also the greatest part of Kirdels, with Petnasyr and Spittleflat. The crown seized these lands, with a considerable field, their property, where the house was situated. In 1594 King James granted all the lands and superiorities to the Magistrates of Elgyn, for maintaining some poor, agreeable to the original design of the foundation. This was confirmed by another charter in 1620, which established the first grant, and more, appointed them to support some poor, and pay a salary to a schoolmaster, *ad docendum musicam, aliasque liberales artes, intra dictum nostrum burgum, in posterum.* Agreeable to this royal appointment, the Magistrates keep in repair a house for accommodating four bedmen; and the remainder of the fund is applied to the maintenance of the schools.

There was another such hospital, established on the east bank of the river Spey, called *St. Nicholas' Hospital*. Some ruins of the buildings were lately to be seen at the boat of Bridge, in the parish of Boharm. This hospital was founded before the reign of King Alexander II. in 1214, and the situation was well chosen, as at that period there was a bridge over the Spey at that place; for King Alexander in 1228 gives the land of Robynfield, *ad sustentationem pontis de Spe, quietam ab omni forinseco servitio.* The grant is in the chartulary of Moray. The same King Alexander granted to this chapel, four merks yearly, out of the rents of his milns of Nairn. In 1238 Muriel de Pollock *de Rothes* gives to the hospital of St. Nicholas, near the bridge of Spey, her miln of Innerorkel, which is confirmed by her daughter, Eva Murtach, with the addition of the church of Rothes; and Andrew, bishop

of Moray, approves of this donation. At the same period, Walter de Murref grants to it the lands of Agynway.

The Dominicans, or *Black Friars*, had a small convent in the immediate neighbourhood of Elgyn, at a place called *Blackfriars Haugh*. It is said that King Alexander II. founded it about 1233. Their houses were razed about forty years ago, and their burying ground converted into arable field. Many rings, spoons, and coins, were found there; but no observations were made on them.

There was also a small convent of *Grey Friars*, or Franciscans, at Elgyn. It is said to have been first endowed by king Alexander II. The walls of the church belonging to it are yet entire, and the remains of the convent are part of the house of William King of Newmiln. John Innes, bishop of Moray, made additions to their revenues about 1409.

At Inverness, was likewise a monastery of Franciscans, founded by King Alexander II. about 1233. In 1359 king David II. confirms to them ten pounds sterling, given by his father king Robert Bruce in 1314, out of the royal rents of the burgh of Inverness.

§. 5. *The Cathedral.*

AT the beginning of the 11th century, bishops in Scotland wore blue gowns, with their hair tucked under a cap, and, having no particular diocese assigned them, were itinerant. The precise æra of the erection of Moray into a bishoprick is uncertain, as the chartulary goes no farther back than 1200: but, before that period, the bishops occasionally employed the churches of *Bruneth*, or *Birney*, of *Spyny* and *Kinnedor*, as the cathedral, and resided near them. Bishop Bricius, soon after the 1200, with the approbation of Pope Innocent III. established the cathedral at Spyny. His successor, bishop Andrew de Murreff, translated it to the church of Holy Trinity, near Elgyn.

In June 1390 Alexander, son of King Robert II. commonly called the *Wolf of Badenoch*, from resentment against Bishop Barr, burned the town of Elgyn, St. Giles, the parish church, Messinew, eighteen houses of the canons, and the cathedral. It is probable Bishop Barr began to rebuild the cathedral, and that the canons and other clergy did contribute to the expence. Bishop Spyne

nie continued the work; but from the extent of the building, and elegance of the workmanship, the progress was slow. Bishop Innes founded the great steeple, in the middle of the church, and considerably advanced it. In 1414 the chapter bound themselves by an oath, that whoever should be elected bishop, should annually contribute one-third of his revenue, for completing the cathedral, until it should be finished. It was at length rebuilt, and remained entire many years, till, in the beginning of the sixteenth century, about 1506, the great steeple fell down. Next year, Bishop Foreman began to rebuild it, and it was finished in 1538, when the height of the tower and spire was 198 feet.

In this state it remained till 1568, when, by an order of the Privy Council at Edinburgh, the Earl of Huntly, sheriff of Aberdeen, with Sir Alexander Dunbar of Cumnock, sheriff of Elgyn and Forres, and the bishops of Aberdeen and Moray, &c. were appointed to take the lead from the cathedral churches of Aberdeen and Elgyn, and sell it for the sustentation of the men of war (soldiers). The roofs were stripped of the lead, and the ship employed to carry it to Holland sunk in the bay of Aberdeen. The whole fabrick, being uncovered, is gradually verging to decay. The great tower fell in 1711.

This cathedral, when entire, was of Gothic, or rather Saracenic architecture, uncommonly elegant and magnificent, all built of free-stone. Its position was due east and west, and form, that of a passion, or Jerusalem crois, with five towers, of which two were on the corners of the east end, one in the middle, and two on the west end. Between the last towers, was the great entrance. This gate, an arch terminating in an angle, is twenty-four feet broad at the base, and twenty-four feet in height. The elegant engraving given along with this publication represents it to more advantage than any description. There were aisles on each side of the church, eastward from the transept, which were eighteen feet broad outside the walls. To afford due light to so extensive a building, besides the large windows in the aisles, there was a range of small windows above the aisles, each six feet high. In the west gable, above the gate, there was a window, in form of an acute-angled arch, twenty-seven feet in height, and nineteen feet wide at the base. In the east gable, was a range of five parallel windows, each ten feet by two; and above these, five more, each seven feet high.

high, and over all a circular window, near to ten feet in diameter. In the middle of the wall of the church, and leading to the upper windows, is an alley round the whole building. Every part of the whole is richly ornamented with carvings, foliage, devices, and embellishments peculiar to this species of architecture, and all finished in the best and most elegant manner.

The *chapter-house*, commonly called *the apprentice aisle*, placed on the north side of the cathedral, near the east end, and communicating with the choir by a vaulted vestry, is an uncommon piece of architecture. It is an octagon, thirty-four feet high, and within walls the diagonal breadth is thirty-seven feet. The vaulted roof is supported by one clustered pillar in the centre, nine feet in circumference. From this pillar ribs spread along the roof, to each angle of the octagon. There is a large window in each of seven of the sides, and the eighth side joins the choir. In the north wall of the chapter-house, there were five stalls, in niches, for the bishop and the dignified clergy to sit in. The middle stall for the bishop, or dean, is larger, and raised a step higher than the others.

Some idea may be formed of the extent of the whole edifice, by the following measurement:

	Feet.
Length on the outside	264
Breadth on the outside	35
Breadth within walls	28
Length of transept over walls	114
Length of transept within	110
Height of west tower	84
Ditto of centre tower and spire	198
Height of eastern turrets	60
Breadth of great gate	24
Height of great gate	24
Height of side-walls	36
Height of chapter-house	34
Diagonal breadth of ditto within walls	37
Breadth of each side	15
Circumference of clustered pillar	9
Height of ditto below the capital	24
Breadth of aisles on the side	18
Breadth of west window	19
M	Height

	Feet.
Height of west window.	27
Height of east windows	10
Height of second row.	7
Diameter of circular window	10

N. B. These measurements are not just accurate.

A large space of ground was surrounded by an high stone wall, in many places yet entire, which inclosed what is now called the *College*, and contained not only the cathedral and burying ground, but the houses, or manses, with the small gardens, that belonged to the twenty-two canons, and dignitaries of the see. The canons were, the ministers of Auldearn, Forres, Alves, Inveravon, Kinedar, Dallás, Raffort, Kingusie, Duthel, Advie, Aberlaur, Dyle, Botarie, Innerkeithnie, Kinnore, Pettie, Duffus, Spynie, Rynie, Mòy, Croy, and the parson of Elgyn. The parson of Alves was chanter, of Forres archdean, of Inneravon chancellor, of Kinedar treasurer, of Auldearn dean. All these had manses and gardens within the precinct of the college. Each canon had a vicarage, for his better support. The gates of the stone wall had an iron gate, and a porter's lodge. Without the precinct on the west, towards Elgin, was a small burgh, depending on the bishop, and not within the royalty. This burgh, with the college, was plundered, and part of it burned, 3d July 1402, by Alexander Macdonald, third son of the Lord of the Isles. He was excommunicated; but ensuing October, was absolved; and he, with his officers, presented a sum of gold for repairing the loss, a considerable part of which was applied to erect a cross and bell, where the bounds of the college begins, towards the town. This is now called the *little cross*.

§. 6. Bishop's Palaces.

WHEN Moray was first erected into a bishoprick, the bishop's house was at *Birney*. There are no remains of this edifice; but tradition reports, that it was at a place called the *Castle-field*. It then was no doubt plain and mean. Bishop Archibald built a house at *Kinedar* about 1280. A few years ago, the walls were in some measure remaining; but now the vestiges of them are scarcely visible. It had been a large double house.

It is not known when the palace at *Spynie* was begun, but probably before or about 1222, when bishop *Bricius* died, who had obtained permission from Pope *Innocent* to fix the cathedral at *Spynie*.

In the south-west corner, was a strong tower, 60 feet by 39, and about 60 feet high. It is called *Davie's Tower*, being built by bishop *David Stewart*, who died 1475.

Over the gate of the square court, are the arms of bishop *John Innes*, *three stars*, and *the initials of his name*. He was consecrated in 1406. This affords room for conjecture, that he built this court, at least finished it.

On the south wall of *Davie's Tower*, are the arms of bishops *David* and *Andrew Stewart*, and *Patrick Hepburn*.

The area occupied by the whole buildings is nearly a square, of 60 yards, each side. *Davie's Tower* had vaulted domestic accommodations on the ground floor. Above that there were four rooms of state, and bed-rooms, with vaulted closets in the walls, which are nine feet thick. The stair is easy, broad, and winding to the top. It is vaulted over all, with a cape-house, and a crenated battlement.

In the other three corners, were small towers, with narrow rooms. In the south side of the area, between the towers, was a large tennis court, and parallel to it was the chapel. The east side, between the turrets, was occupied with stables and other offices. The north and west sides were filled up with bed-rooms, cellars, and store-rooms. The gate was in the middle of the east wall, and had been secured by an iron gate.

The precinct round this palace was fenced in with a high stone wall, and within were gardens and fruit trees. The bed of the river of *Loffy* was once immediately to the east of it. At the Revolution, the palace and precinct were annexed to the crown, and pays into the Exchequer twelve pounds sterling of yearly rent. The lessees or tacksmen have carried away, and sold all the iron and wood-work; so that the bare walls only remained of this stately building; and these are now in great ruin, being demolished to obtain the lime mortar for the neighbouring farm-lands.

Bishop *Patrick Hepburn* built a house near the cathedral, for his town residence, and had a large garden at it. This house is the

property of the Duke of Gordon, since that family purchased the Earl of Dumfermling's estate. It was lately inhabited, but is now in ruins. There is a bungling emblem of the Trinity on a part of this house, three faces on one head.

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§. 7. *Revenues of the Bishoprick.*

THE revenues of the bishoprick of Moray were no doubt at first very limited; but by the bounty of our Kings, nobility, and private individuals, they in time became considerable indeed. King William the Lyon was a liberal donor, as were Alexander II. and David II. So were the ancient Earls of Fife, of Ross, and Thomas Randolph, Earl of Moray, the Murreffs of Duffus, Petyn, and Kirdels, the Comyns of Badenoch, Byseth of Stratharic, Fraser of Lovat, Graham of the Ard, Fenton of Bewford, Ladies of Rothes, Lawder of Brichmony and Kinstary, Thane of Aberchirdor, and many other private persons.

When the reformation was approaching in Scotland, the clergy of all ranks, to secure their own particular interest, and that of their relations, sold and feued away considerable portions of their estates; so that it is now difficult to ascertain the original value of their livings. Fortunately there are extant two records of different periods, that determine the lands and the revenues of the bishoprick of Moray. The one is a charter of confirmation by James II. to John Winchester, bishop of Moray, and his successors, under date of the 8th of November 1451. The other is a full rental of the bishoprick, taken up by Mr. Archibald Lindesay, factor or steward over it in 1565.

The charter of confirmation contains these lands: the barony of Spine, the baronies of Kynedor, Byrneth, Rothevet or Roffert, Fothernes, Keyth. The lands of both Kéylunteis, of both Abreochys, of Abertarf, of Bulleskyn, of Forthir, the lands of the Morass of Strathspey, the lands of Rothymurchus, the davach of the Inche, the davach of Lagankenzie, with the lochs and fishings pertaining to these lands, and the tower in the loch of Lagankenzie, the middle davach of Colnakewell, the lands of Anthmory and Kirkmichel,

*Kirkmichel*, the lands of *Kincardy* and *Kincardin*, the town of the kirk of *Dolef michel*, the kirk-towns of the churches of *Eskyll* and *Duppil*, and *Rothes*, and *Altre*, with *ly Ord* of the same, commonly called the *Bishop's Ord*, the kirk-town of the church of *Kynnore*, the crofts and acres of the churches of *Kinguse* and *Inverelzien*, *Wardlaw*, and *Dyck*, *Dullargusy*, and the chapel of *Rait*, the harbour and fishing of *Loffy*, the tenements of the kirk-towns of *Deveth*, *Artralze*, *Croy*, *Moy*, *Duldawach*, *Ewan*, *Undift*, *Lochlin* or *Innerin*, *Aberlouir*, *Butruphin*, *Archidol*, and the *Core* of *Kynermonth*, *Alachy*, *Kintellargyn*, with the *E's* and fishings of the water of *Ferne*, *Dunbennan*, *Ruthven*, *Botary*, *Drumdelgie*, *Ryne*, *Inverkeithny*, the lands of *Rothemay*, and of *Maison Dieu* at *Elgyn*, all which are annexed to the barony of *Spyne*.

## Abstract of Rental of the Bishoprick of Moray, 1565.

|                   | Money. | Grain.  | Barley. | Wheat.  | Malt.  | Cattle. | Sheep. | Lambs. | Dozen Capons. | Dozen Salmon. | TROUT, or Grillics. | Hote Shooes. | Swine. | Dozen Poultry. |     |
|-------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|--------|----------------|-----|
| Barony of Spynie, | 85 11  | 6       | 1 13    | 0       | 2 6    | 0       | 4 4    | 15 14  | 25 1          |               |                     |              | 1      | 1              |     |
| Keynedor,         | 75 6   | 5 29    | 0       | 13 14   | 3      | 3 12    | 0      | 4 4    | 14 9          | 37 1          |                     |              | 2 8    | 1              |     |
| Birneth,          | 84 13  | 9       | 5 0     | 0       | 3 12   | 2       | 9 4    | 28 34  | 37            |               |                     | 37           | 2 4    | 2              | 5 1 |
| Raffort,          | 84 8   | 2       | 5 15    | 6       | 1 7    | 0       | 6      | 20 20  | 1             |               |                     | 7            | 1      | 1 4            |     |
| Arclauth,         | 142 13 | 5       |         |         | 0 4    | 0       | 1      | 2      | 2             |               |                     |              | 1 1    | 8              | 1   |
| Keyt,             | 92 18  | 1       |         |         | 0 3    | 0       | 2 4    | 2      | 2             |               |                     |              | 2      |                |     |
| Kilmeyles,        | 98 13  | 1       |         |         |        |         |        |        | 2             |               |                     |              |        |                |     |
| Strathipe,        | 179 7  | 0       |         |         |        |         |        | 4      |               |               |                     |              |        |                |     |
| Moymore,          | 20 15  | 4       |         |         |        |         |        |        |               |               |                     |              |        |                |     |
|                   | 864 6  | 9 34 15 | 6 20 11 | 3 11 12 | 2 30 1 | 81 83   | 103    | 11 8   | 1             | 88 31         | 5                   | 21 1         |        |                |     |

\* Lafts from three Cobartick-vils of Spey.

To this is to be added, 103. 2. o. bolls of oats with straw: and all was payable, *terminis Pentecostis et Martini.*

There is also to be added, *Rentale Eccles. Episcop. Morav.*

|                                   |        |          |         |    |      |   |        |    |   |
|-----------------------------------|--------|----------|---------|----|------|---|--------|----|---|
| <i>Newmill</i>                    | decimæ | garbâlis | eccles. | de | Dyke | - | L. 16  | 0  | 0 |
| <i>Mains de Dairneway</i>         | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 4      | 6  | 8 |
| <i>Grangehill</i>                 | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 4      | 4  | 4 |
| <i>Ecclesia de Rothemay</i>       | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 40     | 0  | 0 |
| <i>Keyth</i>                      | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 333    | 6  | 8 |
| <i>Grantully &amp; Drumdelgie</i> | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 193    | 0  | 0 |
| <i>Wardlaw</i>                    | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 40     | 0  | 0 |
| <i>Rothemurchus</i>               | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 13     | 6  | 8 |
| <i>David</i>                      | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 38     | 13 | 4 |
| <i>Tallatice</i>                  | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 30     | 0  | 0 |
| <i>Innerelien</i>                 | -      | -        | -       | -  | -    | - | 30     | 13 | 4 |
|                                   |        |          |         |    |      |   |        |    |   |
|                                   |        |          |         |    |      |   | L. 743 | 16 | 8 |

It appears by another rental of the thirds of the bishoprick of Moray, the abbey of Kinlofs, and priory of Pluscarden, under date 1567:

|                                        |   | C. | B. | F. | P.  |
|----------------------------------------|---|----|----|----|-----|
| That of the bishoprick—of bear         | - | -  | 25 | 13 | 3 3 |
| The abbey of Kinlofs—of bear           | - | -  | 15 | 15 | 1 3 |
| Priory of Pluscarden—malt, bear, meal, | - | 17 | 1  | 2  | 1   |

In estimating the value of the money in this rental, it is to be observed, that at this period the pound weight of silver was coined into eighteen pounds Scots; and in 1563, the boll of wheat was worth L. 2; the boll of bear, L. 1. 13s. 4d.; the boll of meal, L. 1. 13s. 4d.; the boll of malt, L. 2; oats, 10s.; a carcase of mutton, 9s.; a goose, 1s.; the dozen of capons, 12s.; the dozen of poultry, 4s.; the stone of cheese, 6s. and 8 pennies; a swine, L. 1; a kid, 1 pennie; a barrel of salmon, L. 4.

From this short and incomplete survey of the revenues of the bishoprick of Moray, it is evident, that their amount was very valuable, not only in money, but from the variety of articles paid in kind; and however much they have been frittered, and sold, and squandered, the residue is not contemptible. The bishop rents of Moray, as now collected, amount to L. 192 sterling; and it is to be recollectcd, that this is only the feu-duties payable out

of lands, formerly the bishop's property, of which he received the real rent.

The estates, or *temporalia*, of this bishoprick, with the patronages belonging to the bishop, remained after the Reformation in the crown, till 1590, when King James VI. assigned them all to Alexander Lindefay, a son of the Earl of Crawford, and grandson of Cardinal Beaton, for payment of 10,000 gold crowns of the sum, which he had lent his Majesty when in Denmark. It was then erected into the temporal lordship of Spynie, and Mr. Lindefay created Lord Spynie. The grant of the estates and patronages was renewed in 1595 and 1604 and 1607. To obtain a revenue for the bishop, the King prevailed on Lord Spynie to resign the lands, which he did in 1620, reserving the patronages; and his Majesty erected his Lordship's lands of Boysack and others in Forfar-shire, into a lordship, to be called the Lordship of Spynie.

The patronages disposed to Lord Spynie are these: Alves, Longbride, Kinedwart, Eſſil, Kirkmichael, Inneraven, Knockando, Urquhart, Glenmoriston, Forres, Edinkillie, Dallas, Auldearn, Rap-pach, Ardclauch, Bonach, Aberlour, Skirdistown, Advie, Cromdale, Dypple, Ruthven, Innerkeithny, Lundichty, Moy, Spynie, Kingusie, Croy, Moy, Duthil, Unthank, or chapel of Duffus, Boleskin, Kinore, Dumbennian, Botharie, Elchies, Glasſ, Eſſie, Kincardine, Duffus, Alter, Allowae, Buccaben, Fairnway, Laggan, Abernethy, Bornoch. In these are included, not only what belonged immediately to the bishop, but those that belonged to the dignified clergy of the diocese. These patronages, upon the extinction of the heir male of Lord Spynie in 1670, were re-assumed by the crown as *ultimus hæres*. The crown conveyed them, by charter 11th December 1674, to James, Earl of Airly, who disposed them to the Marquis of Huntly in 1682.

It will be proper to conclude this account of the bishoprick, with Robert Keith's

*Catalogue of the Bishops.*

|         |   |                 |                 |                 |
|---------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Gregory | - | - 1115 ob. ——   | Simeon de Tone  | 1171 ob. 1184   |
| William | - | - 1150 ob. 1162 | Richard         | - 1187 ob. 1203 |
| Felix   | - | - 1170 ob. ——   | Bricius Murreff | - 1203 ob. 1222 |

Andrew

|                 |                   |                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Andrew Mureff   | 1223 ob. 1242     | And. Foreman    | - 1501 to 1514                      |
| Simon           | - - 1242 ob. 1253 | James Hepburn   | 1516 ob. 1524                       |
| Archibald       | - - 1253 ob. 1298 | Rob. Schaw      | - 1524 ob. 1527                     |
| David Mureff    | - 1299 ob. 1326   | Alex. Stewart   | - 1527 ob. 1534                     |
| Jo. Pilmore     | - 1326 ob. 1362   | Patrick Hepburn | 1535 deposed,<br>cb. at Spynie 1573 |
| Alex. Bar       | - 1362 ob. 1397   | Geo. Douglass   | - 1573 ob. 1589                     |
| William Spynie  | 1397 ob. 1406     | Alex. Douglass  | - 1606 ob. 1623                     |
| Jo. Innes       | - - 1407 ob. 1414 | Jo. Guthrie     | - 1623 dep. 1638                    |
| Hen. Leighton   | - 1414 ob. —      | Mur. M'Kenzie   | 1662 to 1677                        |
| David           | - - 1429 ob. —    | James Aitkins   | - 1677 to 1689                      |
| Columba Dunbar  | 1429 ob. 1435     | Colin Falconar  | - 1680 ob. 1686                     |
| Jo. Winchester  | - 1437 ob. 1458   | Alexander Rose  | 1686 ob. 1687                       |
| James Stewart   | - 1459 ob. 1461   | William Hay     | - 1688 deprived<br>in 1689 ob. 1707 |
| David Stewart   | - 1462 ob. 1476   |                 |                                     |
| William Tulloch | 1477 ob. 1482     |                 |                                     |
| Alex. Stewart   | - 1482 ob. 1501   |                 |                                     |

By recent and accurate astronomical observations made at Elgyn, the latitude appears to be  $57^{\circ} 43'$  north, and the longitude  $3^{\circ} 34' 45''$  west from Greenwich. The difference of time is 14' 19".

## CHAPTER III.

## OF THE PRESENT STATE OF THE PROVINCE.

*Preliminary Information.*

THE boundaries of the province of Moray were not limited to the extent of the jurisdiction of the sheriffdom. In ancient times, justice was administered in the halls of the respective barons; and by the decisions of the church, more frequently than in the courts of the sheriff, which had then no influence in regulating the ideas of the people, respecting the extent of countries.

The boundaries of the province of Moray are ascertained by ecclesiastical jurisdiction, both ancient and modern; the extent of the provincial synod having been but little altered from that of the episcopalian diocese; and they have been originally fixed, nearly by the natural limits of the country.

The Moray Frith, from the mouth of the river Spey, westward to the influx of the Beaulie, at the termination of the estuary, forms the northern boundary. The limits on the west and south stretch along the summits of those mountains, which turn their waters into the Frith, between the banks of the river Beaulie and the sources of the Spey; which may be regarded as the boundary on the east: but the vallies which open from its southern bank, and pour their streams into that river, form a part of its ecclesiastical jurisdiction, and have ever been regarded as within the limits of the province.

The low lands, or champaign, of Moray may be conceived as a long-extended valley, bounded by the Frith upon the north, and a winding range of mountains along its southern side, which bears a striking uniformity to the mountains on the other side of the Frith; the conical hill of Cullen standing against the Morven (called the Pap of Caithness), and the valley opened by the Spey answering to that of the river of Helmsdale; with other corresponding elevations and depressions. These ridges gradually approach

proach each other, contracting the breadth both of the land and of the sea towards the west, until they meet together, a few miles above the head of the Frith, at the fall of Kilmorac, in the river Beaulie; where so great a change in the appearance of the country takes place, as naturally to terminate the bounds of the province at the west.

The low lands, thus situated between the mountain and the Firth, have their surface greatly diversified by lower intervening hills, generally disposed in short ridges parallel to the Frith. It is also intersected by four other rivers, the Loffy, Findorn, Nairn, and Ness, winding their courses at unequal distances, yet almost parallel to each other, from the mountain, across the plain, into the sea.

Such is the natural face of the country in the low lands of Moray; in length, from east to west, about 60 English miles, and in breadth from 2 to 12, between the bottom of the mountain and the sea; the mean breadth, about 4, makes the superficies equal to 240 square miles. Its latitude is between the  $57^{\circ}$  and  $58^{\circ}$  N.; and the longitude, at the mouth of the Spey, is  $3^{\circ}. 6'. W.$

The aspect of the country in the highland quarter of the district is made up in a form very different from the low lands that have been described. That which from the coast appears to be only a narrow ridge, is a vast mountain, extended even to the margin of the Atlantic ocean, increased considerably in its elevation as it recedes from the eastern shore: it is extended far and wide on either hand, beyond the bounds of the province of Moray. Those six rivers that have been mentioned, and the numerous streams from which they grow, may be conceived as having cut out each for itself a valley in this mountain, differing from each other in position, and varying in the extent of their breadth and depth, in the proportion to the mass of water, combined with the crumbliness of the soil, through which each stream respectively flows.

This however is only suggested to convey more readily the idea of the face of this part of the country; for it is not in every case, that such a secondary cause could have produced this effect, it being impossible for the natural operation of the still water, which forms the expanse of Lochness, to have excavated its bottom, generally out of solid rock, to a depth almost unfathomable.

The bottoms and sides of these valleys occupy in whole about

the third part of the surface of the mountain, so far as the province of Moray extends, containing the whole of the people of the highland district, and, with little exception, the whole of the ground susceptible of cultivation, except certain tracks on which wood might with attention be raised. Such, in general, may be conceived to be the natural face of the country in the highland division of the province.

The present state of policy, cultivation, and art, is now to be considered in each of the parishes apart, following the arrangement that hath been sketched, beginning from Spey at the east, proceeding westward along the Firth, and then southerly across the mountains to the sources of that river, and by its course completing the circuit of the province, marking the connection of the parishes with the different presbyteries in which they are respectively classed.

## PRESBYTERY OF ELGIN.

### NUMBER I.

#### PARISH OF SPEYMOUTH.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.* ]—THIS parish lies upon the northern bank of the river Spey, at its influx into the Moray Firth. Its length from north to south, along the course of the river, may be  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles, its breadth  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , partly terminated by the eastern end of the chain of mountain, which has been described as ranging along the southern side of the champaign of Moray, and partly by the limits of the parish of Urquhart, which meets it on the plain. Where the post road approaches to the river, the country swells into a gentle eminence: exclusive of this, and of the mountain side, it may be regarded as a plain, having one part sunk below the level of the other about 50 feet, having the river winding on its farther edge, which in the lower part of its course shifting at times its channel, and at times dividing its stream, with a considerable extent of fertile ground, much bare uncovered beach is also left: a great proportion of the plain above the bank is also uncultivated moor; but, with the application of lime, might be easily brought into productive

tive cultivation. The arable field is partly a shallow gravelly soil, partly a light fertile loam of sufficient depth, and in some parts it is a sandy soil. The climate, comparatively temperate and mild, is scarcely subject to any other inconvenience besides parching easterly winds, which commonly prevail in April and May, often blasting the fruit in its blossom, and checking the growth of the grafts. This part of the country is supposed to be the driest even in Moray, where it is said there are forty days more of fair weather, than in any other country in the north of Scotland. A drought frequently sets in during the month of July, prejudicial to the crop on the shallow soil. A showery summer is accounted favourable: and a quantity of rain, that would be very hurtful in most parts of the kingdom, is beneficial here. In the year 1782, when, from excessive rain, there was a general failure of the crop over Scotland, many persons here made more than common profit. The mean depth of rain water falling in a year is about 24 inches.

*State of Property.]*—Except the feuars of Garmach, holding of the Duke of Gordon, his Grace is the proprietor of the whole parish, and also of seven-ninth parts of the fishery: the other two-ninth parts appertain to the Earl of Moray. Garmach, the only village in the parish, is a burgh of barony, containing 620 inhabitants: it has an annual fair, on the 19th of June. The lands are occupied for the greater part by the proprietors, several of whom, by pursuits in other occupations, are in opulent circumstances. The name of this village is Gaelic; but its signification is not certainly ascertained: it may import the *rough outlet*, from the ripple of the tide at the influx of the river; but as it bore the same name when the mouth of the river was more than 3 miles distant, it may be rather a compound, corrupted of VAR, water, AUGH, a plain on the bank of a stream, and NA, the Gaelic of the article *the*. The walls of the greater number of the houses in this village are composed entirely of clay, made into mortar with straw, in some cases having a foot or two in height from the foundation built in alternate courses of the same mortar and stone. In building this kind of wall, it is necessary to suspend the work a little, on the addition of every yard of height, that it may not warp from the perpendicular. With this precaution, it is frequently raised to the height of two stories, bears a slated roof, and is neatly finished within. If sufficiently covered on the top, it is found as durable,

and

and more impervious to wind and damp, and appears as handsome, when daubed over on the outside with lime mortar, as walls of stone in the common fashion.

The parish is occupied in farms rather of small extent. A few rise to near 80 acres, some about 50, several about 30, and nearly the half of the whole number may be let from L.4 to L.10 of yearly rent. 10s. may be stated as the mean rent of the acre, varying from about 5s. to 15s. Part of the lands which are let about Garmach bring from 20s. to 30s. the acre, and a small proportion rises to about L.2. 10s. the acre, making the average there about L.1. 5.

The valued rent of the land of the parish is L.2771 17 1 Scots. To which is added, the valued rent of the

|         |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |           |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----------|
| fishery | ▪ | ▪ | ▪ | ▪ | ▪ | ▪ | ▪ | ▪ | ▪ | 2541 17 8 |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----------|

Total L.5313 14 9 Scots.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—In the year 1731 the parishes of Dipple and Effil, and the village of Garmach, originally appertaining to the parish of Urquhart, were, by the decree of the Court of Teinds, erected into one parish, then named *Speymouth*. The glebes of the parishes of Dipple and Effil were exchanged with the family of Fife for the present glebe, which being then partly uncultivated moor, about 25 acres were found the equivalent. The church and manse were built in a centrical situation; but the burying grounds of the original parishes were continued: and their patrons, the Earl of Moray, and the proprietor of Gordonstown, use the right of patronage alternately. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is L.53. 6s. 8d. sterl. ; 77 bolls, 1 firld, 2 pecks, barley; and 32 bolls, 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  peck, oat-meal—at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  stone per boll of meal. The parochial school was lately established at Garmach, though at one of the extremities, the most populous quarter of the parish: the salary is 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  bolls meal, and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  bolls of bear: and as by act of Parliament 1696, the salaries of schools “are declared to be by and attour the casualties, which formerly “belonged to the readers, and clerks of the kirk session,” the schoolmaster is by this statute entitled to L.2. sterl. as session clerk, paid from the parish funds under the management of the session. He is by the same statute likewise entitled to 1s. for the proclamation of the purpose of each marriage, and for every baptism entered on the

the record; and for every extract of such entry, and for every certificate granted by the session, 4d. He has moreover L.5. 11s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. the interest of an endowment by Mr. Pat. Gordon, watchmaker in Edinburgh, for the behoof of the schoolmaster of his native place: The fees for teaching in parish schools are generally the same over the province; namely, for each scholar taught to read English, 4s. in the year; when writing is conjoined, 5s. 4d. yearly; for arithmetic, 6s. 8d.; 8s. for Latin; and for a course of book-keeping, half-a-guinea.

The Society for propagating Christian Knowledge have lately established a school, towards the other extremity of the parish, with an appointment of L.10 yearly, to which the landlord adds a house, small garden, and L.2 yearly; besides which, he has L.1. 7s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. the half of an endowment by the family of Fife, in a former generation, for the schools of the original parishes: a superannuated teacher at present has the other half. At this school, about 30 scholars generally attend; and about as many, the younger servants in the neighbourhood, attend the same master, for some hours during the evenings of the winter season. There are, besides, two or three poor women, who, in different parts of the parish, teach children to read: the poorest of the people have all their children taught to read, and most of the boys are taught also arithmetic, and to write.

Poor's rates are not known in this country; yet, with such labour as themselves are able for, all are by voluntary charity provided with the necessaries of life: very little is suffered by want, there is no abuse, and little temptation to idleness. The provision for the poor arises from donations, made by the people who attend the public worship of the parish church, collected immediately on its conclusion. These amount to about L.20 sterling in the year, to which the hire of the pall at funerals is added, and L.4. 3s. 4d. bequeathed by the same ancestor of the family of Fife who made the endowment for the school, which are paid by his Lordship. This fund, after discharging the fee of the session clerk, and L.1 as the wages of the session officer, is divided half-yearly, generally among 40 persons, on the parish roll, in proportion to their respective necessities, besides occasional supplies in urgent cases. The number of the Established Church is 1302: there are 40 of the Church of Rome, and 5 of the Episcopalian profession.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people in general are honest, peaceable, and industrious, charitable also, and in cases of distress much disposed to acts of humanity. They are hardy and active, and rather above the middle size. Few go into the army; the greater part apply to husbandry, to the salmon fishing, and the young men about the town of Garmach are disposed to a seafaring life, and become expert sailors. About 12 of the natives are at present the masters of vessels. The more wealthy wear English cloth, in which almost all are dressed on holidays. Most of the smaller tenants keep as many sheep as supply clothing for their families, and almost all raise flax, which they also manufacture into linen. Several families make a little both of woollen and linen cloth for sale. Moor turf is the fuel through the greater part of the parish. Sunderland coal, delivered from the ship at 2s. for a barrel of 13 stone, is mostly used about Garmach. The stone principally used is quarried from the rock that forms the bank of the river for a mile where the post road passes; it is limestone of a red colour; toward the top it is a stone marl, which, with intervening layers of clay, is used in the vicinity with great advantage as a manure. The stone becomes harder in proportion to the depth at which it is quarried.

The river Spey derives its remotest source from the mountain of Caryarioch, at the distance of almost 100 miles from its influx into the German Ocean. It is the most rapid river in Scotland; its fall for the last 3 miles of its course is 60 feet. It does not appear so large as the more gently rolling Tay; yet it is supposed to discharge an equal quantity of water in the year. In the middle and higher parts of its course, its branches stretch out to 15 miles on either side, and the extent of country which it drains is equal to 1,600 square miles. Although its course is now directly into the sea, yet it is certain, that in ancient times, bending almost into a right angle when just upon the shore, it flowed westward nearly 3 miles, mostly parallel with the Firth, in a hollow marshy tract, called the Leen, now partly reduced into a state of imperfect cultivation. The tide flows up the river almost to Garmach, and, at neap tides, the depth of water is 9 feet on the bar. The entrance into the harbour is sometimes shifted a little by the gravel washed down by the stream; but there being always skilful pilots, no detriment ensues. The expence of building a pier is supposed

supposed to exceed the value of the trade; but the shore on either side for 5 or 6 miles along the bay of Spey being smooth gravel, or soft sand (one little rock, *the bear's head*, half way between Garmach and Lossiemouth excepted), several vessels have in necessity been run ashore, with little damage.

At the harbour, there is a wood trade, the most considerable, it is supposed, for home timber in Scotland. It is mostly fir, with some birch and oak. There are seven persons engaged in this trade; but for some years the greater part has been carried on by an English company, who, about the year 1784, contracted with the Duke of Gordon, for all the marketable timber of the forest of Glenmore, in the district of Strathspey, to be felled within the space of 26 years, at the sum of L. 10,000 sterling. When the timber of this, and of the other forests in Strathspey and Baden-augh, arrives at Garmach, after supplying a great extent of country, from Aberdeen to the isle of Sky, it is carried in considerable quantities to Hull, and to the King's yards at Deptford and Woolwich. This company have also formed a dock-yard, and since the year 1786, besides a number of boats, they have built 24 vessels from 25 to 500 tons burthen, the greater number about 200 tons, amounting in all to more than 4000 tons, all of the fir wood of Glenmore, both the plank and timbers. The greater part of this wood being of the best quality, these vessels are deemed equal to those of New England oak. The largest masts are 60 feet in length. Before the Commissioners of the Navy purchased any of this timber, they ascertained, by several experiments, that it is equal in quality to any imported from the Baltic. Several of these vessels have been purchased for the Baltic trade, one for the trade of the Bay of Campeachy, and several are employed in the trade of the company. Besides the vessels which they have built, several sloops have been also built at Speymouth by others, in the same time, and several have been repaired. The plank, deals, and masts, are floated from their native forests down the Spey in rafts, navigated by 2 men, at the rate of L. 1. 10s. the raft. The logs and spars belonging to the English company are at times floated down in single pieces, to the number perhaps of 20,000 at a time, conducted by 50 or 80 men going along the sides of the river, to push them off by poles, as they stick upon the banks, hired at 1s. 2d. by the day, and a competent allowance of spirituous liquor.

The medium price of logs, from 10 to 20 feet long, and from 12 to 18 inches diameter, is 1s. the solid foot; spar-wood of the same length, about 7 inches diameter, is sold at 7d. the solid foot; plank, 3 inches thick, and 10 in breadth, about 12 feet in length, are 3s. the piece—2 inches thick, 2s.; and deals, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick, 8 inches in breadth, and 12 feet long, 1s. the piece.

The exports from Spey consist chiefly of wood and salmon, and 4 or 5 cargoes of grain, or meal, of 400 or 500 barrels each in a year.

From Oct. 1, 1791, to Oct. 1, 1792, vessels sailed from

Spey with timber for different places, from 350 to 20 tons burden, average 50 tons - - - - -

82

Touched at Spey, and took in salmon for London, having taken in part of the same cargo at other ports - - - - -

24

With oats and meal - - - - -

2

With yarn - - - - -

1

Number of vessels which sailed with cargoes - - - - -

109

Vessels arrived in Spey with coal - - - - -

11

With empty kits, staves, and hoops - - - - -

5

With iron and goods - - - - -

6

With salt - - - - -

1

23

The salmon fishery, yielding a revenue of L.1800 Sterling yearly, begins on the 30th of November, and ends the 26th of August. It is seldom regular until the end of January. During the spring months, the greater part of the fish is sent fresh in ice to London—a late discovery, which adds greatly to the value of the fishery, as the highest price is in this way obtained. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. the lb. is the common price at the river-side. After the beginning of May, the greater part of the salmon is boiled, and sent to the London market. The fishery is carried on by nets and small boats, each navigated by 8 men, and an overseer, called the *Kenner*, from the Gaelic word for the *head*. The crew is changed every 12 hours: each man has L.1. 15s. of stated wages for the season, and 6d. each besides, when 6 fish are caught in the 12 hours, and 3d. only when they catch but 4. They have still a farther allowance when they

catch

catch above a certain greater number, and may gain from L. 4 to L. 6 in the season. They have also as much bread and beer as necessary while at work, and a bottle of spirits to the crew for the 12 hours they are employed. They are accounted skilful in the busines; and though wading in the water higher than the knee, and remaining the whole 12 hours in wet clothes, such is the power of habit, they feel no inconvenience from the cold even of the winter night. About 130 men may be the number generally employed.

This parish has a connection with the distinguished family of Chatham. Jane, spouse to Governor Pitt, the great grandmother of the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, was daughter to James Innes Esq. of Redhall, on the bank of the Spey directly opposite to Gordon Castle. The family of Redhall, represented now by Innes of Blackhills, are a branch of the family of Innes, Barons of Coxtown. This circumstance has been always recognized in the country, and is ascertained by Edmondson's Peerage, "Family of Chatham."

The parish has been the scene of some actions in the history of the kingdom. Near the mouth of the river, the rebels of Moray, Ross, and Caithness, in the year 1078, made a stand, to oppose the passage of Malcolm III.; but, on seeing the resolution of the royal army in fording the river, their submission was offered, and received, at the intercession of the priests.

In the year 1110 an army of rebels halted at the mouth of the Spey, to dispute the passage with Alexander I. pursuing them. The King, forcing the passage, so terrified the rebels, that they were easily defeated by a detachment of the army, under the conduct of Alexander Scrimger.

In the year 1160 a rebellion, still more formidable, was quelled by Malcolm IV. in a battle that must have happened on the moors of this parish, wherein the Moray people were so completely routed, that the chief families of this turbulent province were removed to different parts of the kingdom, and others transplanted in their room.

In the year 1650 King Charles II. landed at Speymouth from Holland. A man of the name of Milne carried his Majesty on shore, and his descendants are yet distinguished from others of the same name in Garmach, by the appellation of *King Milnes*. His

Majesty was received by the Knight of Innes, and other gentlemen, and dined with the steward of Lord Dumfermling, at that time the proprietor of the lordship of Urquhart, in a house of Garmach, built, as has been described, of mortar, and of late only taken down; and in this house it was, that his Majesty subscribed the Solemn League and Covenant.

NUMBER II.

PARISH OF URQUHART.

*Situation, Soil, and Climate].*—THE parish of Urquhart may be understood to extend across the low lands of Moray, from the sea upon the N. to the mountain on the S. about 9 miles, though in this space one farm of the parish of Speymouth intervenes; and so little of the cultivated ground lies on the southern side of the post-road, that it may be considered in a general view as forming its boundary, as it passes from Elgin at the W. to the river Spey at the E. for the length of 4 miles, parallel almost to the Firth, at the distance of 3 miles on the N. The sea-coast, which is about 6 miles in extent, is low and sandy; and as no brook or rivulet falls in between Spey and the water of Lossy, there is no creek or landing place of any kind. Grain, which is the only article of exportation, is shipped in the harbours of Speymouth or Lossymouth; and coal, the great article of importation, must be carried over-land from the same harbours, the former at the distance of 4, and the other of 6 miles. In addition to what has been already said of the climate, it is only to be observed, that its superiority over that of the high country is most remarkable in the spring months. While all the operations of husbandry are going forward in the low parts of Moray, they meet with a total interruption in the high country, distant only a few miles, by the intenseness of the frost, or the depth of the snow. The winters likewise in general are so temperate, that several plants, commonly ranked in the hot-house division, stand throughout that season, in the gardens of Innes-House, losing little of their verdure. It may likewise be observed, as another evidence of the excellence of this climate, that in the famine which prevailed over Scotland for 7 years

years in the end of the last century, owing to the cold and wet seasons, the land in Moray was all that time so productive, as to spare considerable quantities of grain; and it is well ascertained, that in those years of dearth, people came from the county of Angus to buy oat-meal at the rate of L.1. 10s. the boll, to be carried across the Grampian mountains, at the distance of about 100 miles. Towards the N. W. part of the parish, the land is low and flat, and a few feet only above the level of the sea, of which at a remote period it has been the bottom, as there are evident marks of the sea having receded from the coast. The soil here may be accounted loam. In the other quarters of the parish, the ground is greatly more elevated, and of an unequal waving surface; and the soil, though in general sandy and light, is of a kindly and fertile nature, well adapted for turnip, potatoe, barley, and all kinds of artificial grasses, and a considerable part would be extremely fit for wheat, could manure in sufficient quantities be produced.

*State of Property.]*—Four-fifths of this parish are the property of the Earl of Fife. About 26 years ago, his Lordship, being proprietor of considerable estates in the adjacent parishes, purchased the estate of Innes; and he lately acquired the lordship of Urquhart, partly by an excambion with the family of Gordon, and partly by the purchase of several small feus, which had originally thereto appertained, and thus became possessed of so large a tract of contiguous property, comprehending a great variety of ground, that he became enabled to complete plantations of very large extent, which add much to the ornament and convenience of the country. Some moors and hills of great extent are planted, and a number of little rising grounds are covered with singular good taste, making their appearance with relation to each other extremely beautiful. In all these plantations, the Scots fir at present predominates; but many of these are yearly cut down, and the voids filled up with deciduous trees. Previous to the year 1779, when about one half of these plantations were formed, 3000 Scots firs were planted on each acre; but since that that time, 1200 only. Lord Fife has also enclosed many fields by hedges and hedge-rows, which are carried in part along the highways, affording considerable warmth and utility. In a valley bending north and south, stands his seat of Innes-House, in a park of considerable extent, diversified by groves of full-grown lofty trees, young shoot-

ing

ing plantations, verdant fields; and a small winding river, expanded in some places into a lengthened lake, and at others contracted into a neat cascade, decorated by a waving gravel path, and several Chinese bridges. The approach to the house bends in a winding course through the grove, and terminates in an open lawn, having a very extensive, but irregularly-formed garden on one side, in which are long reaches of fruit-wall, covered with the richest variety of fruitage, pears, cherries, plums, nectarines, and peaches. There are also many lofty forest trees, among which numbers of common fruit trees luxuriantly mingle. In the house are conjoined the magnificence of the Gothic castle to the elegance of the modern seat. It rises to the height of four stories. It makes two sides of a square, but of unequal length, having a square tower in the angle, which is occupied by the stair-case within: it rises higher than the building, and is completed by a small round turret, opening into its level roof, which is surrounded by a secure stone balustrade; and instead of the dead-wall heavy masonry, of which the chimney-stacks of modern buildings are composed, each vent springs lightly from the blue roof, in its own separate airy column. The ground floor is occupied by the necessary household accommodations. The first floor contains a suite of three magnificently superb rooms, in which are a number of portrait pictures of Kings of England, Princes, and Queens, and of other personages of distinguished memory, many of them large as the life, and in the various dresses of their respective generations. There are also a few historical and other paintings, and several ancient historic prints of the largest size, in very costly frames, with plates of the most transparent mirror glass. The stories above are occupied by the bed-chambers: among them is one splendid dressing room, finished with paper richly painted in the Chinese manner, on which a variety of trees of exotic growth shoot from the floor to the ceiling, their branches animated by numbers of tropical birds, in various attitude, size, and form, each however of the most delicate plumage, and of the most vivid colours.

The only other heritor is John Innes of Leuchars, who has about one-fifth of the real rent of the parish, which he acquired about the year 1781 from another gentleman of the same name, who had built a handsome house, and given some attention to the draining of the land. Since the present gentleman became the proprietor,

proprietor, he has been attentive to raise hedges and stripes of plantation about the fields round his house, of the best kinds of deciduous trees, such as oak, ash, witch elm, and a great proportion of larix, besides several clumps of Scots fir, similar to those executed by Lord Fife. The farms are in general rather small for encouraging substantial improvements in agriculture: there are a few that may contain from 60 to 100 acres; but the common run is from 20 to 30. The rent of the land varies according to the nature of the soil: there are some fields let for 20s. the acre, while others are below 10s.; the average may be from 10s. to 15s.

The valued rent is L.5567. 15s. 3d. Scots, of which appertains to the estate of Leuchars, L.437. 3s. 3d.

*Ecclesiastical State.*]—The Earl of Fife acquired the patronage from the family of Gordon, in the excambion that has been already mentioned. The stipend, by decree Feb. 1793, is 8 chalders victual, L.40 sterling, including L.5 for communion elements, and a glebe consisting of 5 Scots acres. The schoolmaster's salary is 12 bolls of oatmeal, and 6 bolls of barley: the other emoluments are similar to those of Speymouth already mentioned. The funds for the support of the poor are some bequeathments, yielding L.2. 11s. 4d. sterling of yearly interest, and the donations collected from the congregation of the parish church, amounting to L.10 yearly, which are divided among the poor enrolled in the parish list, being 20 in number at an average. The members of the Established Church are 1030: the Dissenters are 20, consisting chiefly of Anti-burgher Seceders.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people are in general very sober and industrious in their several occupations, which are as well directed as their situation and circumstances will permit. Within these 20 years, a great change to the better may be remarked in their clothing, their cleanliness, and every other circumstance that tends to make life more agreeable. There is one lake in the parish, the loch of Cottes. Pike is the only fish it contains: in winter it is frequented by a considerable number of swans; in the spring and autumn, by flocks of wild geese, ducks, and other water-fowls. In the upper part of the parish, the lake of Lochnaboe borders upon its limits at the west: the extensive plantations already mentioned are carried round its banks, and with the water, which is uncommonly limpid, forms a most delightful

lightful scene. These improvements have however been attended with one disadvantage. In some severe winters, several years ago, a few stags and hinds from the forests of Glenfiddich and Glenavon, took up their residence in the plantations round Lochnabœ, and never returned to their native forests, but increase in numbers every year, by breeding and by fresh emigrants. They make a fine appearance, and afford much amusement to the sportsman; but they are hurtful both to the plantations and agriculture. Throughout the summer, in the night, they pasture on the corns; in the winter, on the turnip; and as the crops of wheat and rye advance in the spring, they are particularly destructive to these; but the stem of the potatoe seems to be their favourite food, as they pass through fields of corn to browse upon them. Where the corn fields lie so near to their haunts on every hand, it will probably in a short time be found necessary to drive them back to their original habitation, or, after the example of the Earl of Moray in the west, to keep hounds for the purpose of their utter extirpation. Although these plantations have attracted the deer, they have not been favourable to the increase of partridges and hares, owing to the protection which they afford to beasts and birds of prey. Were small premiums to be provided for the destruction of such vermin, it would prove more effectual for encreasing the quantity of game, than all the restrictive laws that ever were, or ever will be enacted.

The history of the priory of Urquhart has been already given. The site of it has been lately converted into arable field; and the name of the *Abbey Well*, which is still given to the fountain that supplied the monks with water, is the only memorial of it that now remains.

NUMBER III.

PARISH OF ST. ANDREWS LHANBRYD.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—WHEN popery was the established religion in the province of Moray, it was an article of faith, that the spirits of departed saints, though resident in heaven, beheld the transactions upon earth, continued to be concerned in mortal affairs, and had interest with the Almighty to obtain special favours for

for their friends below. Much prayer was therefore made to dead saints, and many honours were bestowed, in order to win the regard of such among them as were believed to have most credit in heaven, or were by accidental circumstances more affectionately attached to any particular district of this lower world. On this account, churches, chapels, and altars, were erected in honour of particular individual saints, even before the division of the kingdom into parishes took place. The apostle Andrew, it was believed, had appeared in a vision, promising to King Hungus the victory over the enemy; and his relicks had been also miraculously employed in converting the nation to the faith of the gospel: being therefore in those ages a peculiar favourite, the church, which gave his name to the parish, was erected to the honour of his memory.

A Welch lais also, of the name of Bridget, had acquired such distinguished reputation as a saint, that Dr. Macpherson of Slate, Diff. 15. shews cause to believe, that the whole of the Western Isles of Scotland were put under her particular protection, and so much appropriated to her, that *Hebrides* or *Ey-Brides*, being literally translated, mean the *Islands of Bridget*: and her Gaelic name of *Bride* is still recognized in the denomination of no fewer than 6 of the parishes of the church of Scotland, there being 4 Killbryds, Panbryd, and Lhanbryd, all signifying *Bridget's Church*. For *killie* being originally the Erse word for *servant*, came to denote the church where the servant of the Divinity officiated; and its signification was by degrees extended to imply also the burying place, which, on account of the consecrated ground, became inseparably connected with the church.

In the other denomination, the word *pan* is a corruption of the Latin *fanum*, or *phanum*, a temple, derived from a Greek word signifying *light*, because oracular illumination was there vouchsafed. Thus the lands, which were bestowed upon the canons of the Elgin cathedral, are still named the *Pans*; and the adjoining gate, which led through the college to the cathedral, still bears the appellation of the *Pans Port*.

The last denomination *than*, in the original British or Welch language, is a *grove*, and from the sacred places of the Druids, it has been in that tongue appropriated also for *church*.

This parish measures about 3 miles from E. to W. along the high way from Spey to Elgin. Its territory extends from the sea to the

mountain, although the inhabited ground from N. to S. measures only about 4 miles, exclusive of an improvement, one mile distant on the south, disjoined by an intervening skirt of the parish of Elgin, to which it pertains. It was originally the moor where the cattle were collected, for drawing part of the tythes of both parishes, before they were converted into money, from which it retains the name *Teind-land*, and on account of its distance from Elgin, the inhabitants have in general ranked themselves in this parish. The general appearance of the country is a plain, interrupted however by several of those low intervening ridges, by which, as has been said, this country is diversified, all of them being covered with corn, or grass, or plantations of wood. The air is healthful and dry, and the soil in general sandy, yet fertile where it is low and damp.

*State of Property.* ]—The parish at present is shared among 8 proprietors. The Earl of Fife has the whole of what had been the parish of Lhanbryd, and the ancient barony of Kilnalemnoc in St. Andrews, valued together in the cens books of the county at L. 1629. 12s. 8d. Scots. The Hon. George Duff has Barmuckity, in the middle of the parish, of L. 462. 5s. Scots of valued rent. The Earl of Findlater holds Linkwood and Linksfield in the west, with part of the lands of Newmill, amounting to the valuation of L. 674. 2s. 3d. Scots. William King of Newmill Esq. has the lands in the vicinity of Elgin, amounting to L. 203 Scots of valuation. Although there are several handsome houses in the parish, particularly at Linkwood, yet Pitgaveny, the property of John Brander Esq. is the only family seat. It is a superb modern house, an oblong square of 4 stories, having a double-ridged roof, rising so far within a battlement, as to form a pleasant walk around. The front door is in the western side, between two lofty Doric columns, rising from the landing place of a spacious flight of steps, and supporting a massive pediment above: it opens into the principal floor, which, besides the hall and stairs, contains an ample parlour, breakfasting room, library, and bed-chamber; the great drawing room, and state bed-chambers, are in the third story. The stone of the walls is superior in whiteness and durability to the Portland stone, and more easily formed. The building stands on a gentle eminence, commanding Innes-house rising through its groves, and the windings of the river Lossy, on the east; on the west, a stretch of the lake of

Spynie,

Spynie, bending like a great river between its green banks, which rise to such a height as to conceal its termination at either end. On the nearest, stand the ruins of the Bishop's palace: an object perhaps more desirable in its present desolation, than when occupied by its lordly owners; who, if they attained that rank by their own merit, became in general craftily rapacious; or, if raised to it by mere interest, turned out to be absurdly arrogant. A wide extent of the richest corn-field lies every-where around, enlivened with neat farm-steads, herds, and plantations: the neighbouring city of Elgin smokes behind an intervening green hill: at a distance, the blue mountains of Sutherland skirt the northern horizon, and the Moray Firth rolls its azure waves along their dusky bottoms. The domains of this house extend over large portions of the parishes of Drainy and of Duffus, on the other side of the lake. The valuation here is L.341. 2s. 8d. Scots. The lands of Dunkinty and St. Andrews, separated by the river Loffy, appertain to John Innes Esq. of Leuchars, and are valued at L.802. 6d. Scots; and there is the small estate of Scottstownhill, about 50 acres, valued at L.88. 14s. 6d. Scots, accounted a 40 shilling land of old extent, and the freehold of a branch of the family of Altyr: there is besides, a small property in the Barflat hills, a valuation of L.24. 5s. 1d. Scots, which in the last generation was bestowed by Gordon of Cairnfield, for the support of the Episcopalian chapel in Elgin; making the valued rent of the whole parish, L.4222. 1s. 8d. Scots. The farms in the parish amount to the number of 80; many of them containing from 100 to 200 acres; about 18 of them are occupied by people in the character of gentlemen, and about 12, being in the improvement of the Tiendland, ought rather to be accounted as belonging to the parish of Elgin.

The rent by the acre, on most of them, is varied every year by the variation of the price of grain, in which a portion of the rent is still generally paid. The mean rent may be stated at 17s. the acre, though a great proportion of most farms can be only valued at 5s. the acre, while some part of almost each, if separately let, would exceed a guinea by the acre of yearly rent.

*Ecclesiastical State.]*—It has not been with precision ascertained, at what time the division of the kingdom into parishes took place. It is presumed this could not be carried at once into complete effect; alterations in the extent of parishes have from time to time

been made, as the interest or convenience of parties concerned in the varying circumrotation of human affairs might suggest; and convenience in this respect, in many cases, is still far from being yet attained.

In this parish, the chapel of Kilnalemnock was probably an apartment consecrated within the castle at Forrester-seat, and upon its demolition would naturally fall into St. Andrews: and the chapel of Inchbroom must have been disposed of in the same manner, upon the suppression of the priory of Urquhart, upon which it is supposed to have depended. It does not appear that there ever was a burial place but at the last of these chapels.

In 1642 the parish of Oguestown, at present a part of the parish of Drainy, was united to St. Andrews. The bishop drew the great tithes of both; leaving, with the whole pastoral duties, the small tithes only to the vicar, which, valued at L.6. 11s. 1½d. are continued a part of the stipend of St. Andrews.

In 1780 the parish was formed into its present shape, by the annexation of St. Andrews to Lhanbryd. The stipend is ten chalders, 4 bolls, and L.26. 13s. 9d. including the allowance for communion elements. The former burying grounds are continued; but the parochial church is erected in a situation more commodious for the people in general, than the old churches were for their respective congregations. The right of patronage is now shared between the Crown and the Earl of Moray. The members of the Established Church are about 700; and the Dissenters, being Episcopalian, Seceders, and Methodists, are about 40.

In 1794 the schools which were at St. Andrews and Lhanbryd were, by the proprietors of the parish and the presbytery, conjoined into one parochial school, and the building erected contiguous to the church. The salary is 14 bolls of bear, and L.4. 3s. sterling; the rest of the emoluments being similar to the other parochial schools in the country. The fund for the poor arises partly from four small bequeathments made in other times, and from the halfpence given by the people who attend the parish church, amounting in whole to about L.16 sterling in the year; which, after the legal deduction to the session clerk, and a small fee to the church officer, is, without expence to the heritors, divided half-yearly among a roll of about 30 people, in proportion to the urgency of their respective needs.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—There is a mineral spring in the Tiendland, of a strong chalybeate kind. It has not yet acquired much celebrity, though it has given relief to all who have made proper trial of its effects. The river Lossie, entering the parish towards the N. W. corner, divides it there from the town of Elgin, and continuing its course easterly through the parish for nearly two miles, turns round towards the north, until it reaches the sea at the village and harbour of Lossiemouth, having a corner of the parish of Urquhart crossing its channel, interjected between the estate of Pitgaveny and the Earl of Fife's property of Inchbroom.

There are three lakes on the confines of the parish. That of Spynie is the largest, which though equally, rather more extensively connected with the parishes of Drainy and Duffus on its northern side, and that of Spynie itself lying along the greater part of its southern bank, yet the costly drain, so advantageously made by Pitgaveny, naturally leads to its consideration here; and to make an entire connected account of it at once, may avoid repetition, and be more distinct, than to narrate the detached circumstances as they would occur in these parishes apart..

In the account of the parish of Urquhart, it was observed, that there are evident marks of the sea having receded from the coast; and there are pretty satisfactory indications in the appearance of the ground, and particularly by the beds of oyster shells, which, though not now found on the coast, are frequently discovered on the banks of the lake, several feet below the surface of the earth, that at some other period, this lake must have been an arm or strait of the ocean, open in breadth at the east, nearly from the hill of Garmach to the head-land behind Lossiemouth, and stretching westward over the plain, till it again joined the Frith at the village of Burghhead. The general elevation of this tract does not yet exceed 4 feet above the level of the sea, save in one narrow space, across from the corner of the hill of Roscisle, where the eddy wind accumulating the drifting sand, it has been raised to the height of 13 feet.

The irruption of the Goodwin Sands happened in the tenth century, in the reign of Malcolm III. and from Buchanan's history it might be inferred, that its effects were not limited to that quarter alone, but must have extended over all the eastern coast of Britain.

Britain. "Among the prodigies of that period," says he, "may be reckoned an inundation of the German ocean, so extraordinary, as not only to have overspread and overwhelmed the country with sand, but to have overturned also villages, towns, and castles."

Another storm, extremely violent also, happened in the 13th century, upon the eastern coast of Scotland. "In the year 1266 a great wind arose from the north, on the eve of the feast of the 11000 virgins, and the sea broke in, and many houses and villages were overwhelmed. There never was such a deluge," says Fordun, lib. x. c. 22, "since the times of Noah, as appears from its traces at this day" (*sicut adhuc vestigia manifestant*).

To one or both of these irruptions may be ascribed, with some degree of probability, the separation of the lake of Spynie from the sea, which is occasioned by a beach of pebbles, gravel, and sand, extending southward from Lossiemouth, for about 3 miles along the shore. In some places it is more than a mile in breadth, and covers an extent of about 560 acres: its general height is about 20 feet above the high water mark; but it is cut out almost to the level of the sea in many channels, from 50 to 100 yards wide, waving parallel to the shore. Towards its southern end, it has acquired a thin surface of soil, producing dwarfish heath and juniper, and has been lately planted with Scots firs; but, in many places of great extent, it has yet acquired no sward, and the pebbles, gravel, and sand, are still as bare as when just left by the sea. It evidently appears to have been superinduced by the extreme violence of some dire commotion, which at once raising this immense mass of rounded stone and sandy gravel from the bottom of the ocean, poured it with an overflowing rapidity in the opening of the bay, penetrated farther upon either side, where the shallow water could give least resistance; but where its depth towards the middle must have given the greatest opposition, its progress seems to have been first checked, and a semi-circular mound of the larger pebbles has been raised, with a striking regularity, upon a bottom of sea-sand, now clothed with grass. The connection with the ocean being hereby cut off, the mechanical violence of the advancing surge, and the subsiding agitation of the retreating waves, would naturally form the alternate channels and ridges, which

have

have been described, upon this new shore, not then so cohesive as it is now, when consolidated by the long-continued influence of the power of gravity, hardly at the first exerted on the gravel, almost floating on the still intermingled water. The bottom of the lake, if at that time so deep as the sea, must have been gradually since then filled up, both by the winds and the waters sweeping down the sand and the mud, chiefly from the west, where the bottom of the lake has of course been first converted into dry productive land.

The communication with the sea at the west appears to have been gradually cut off. Until this was completely effectuated, it is evident that a passage would be again opened at the east, upon the subsiding of the storm. This appears to have been effected in the course of the present canal, and of the river Loffy, which at that time entered the lake upon the east side of the castle of Spynie. These circumstances are ascertained by the chartulary of Moray, fol. 93. in a protest taken in the year 1383 by the Lord Bishop Alexander Bar, against the noble Lord John Dunbar, Earl of Moray, and the burgesses of Elgin, respecting the right of the fishing and of the harbour.

“ *Item*,” says his Lordship, in the second article of this protest, “ *Because the port of Loffy, otherwise of Spynie, and the fishing grounds in dispute, are within the marches and limits, and within the extent of the said lands of Spynie and Kinnedar, and the island [probably Inchbroom], the extent of which along the banks is distinctly and universally known.* ”

“ *Item*,—*Because the Bishops of Moray, our predecessors, with the knowledge and sufferance of the Earls, and of the burgesses of Elgin, had, and were in the use of having, the inhabitants of the village of Spynie, in the name and right of the Bishops of Moray, fishers of sea fish, sailing with their wives and families from Spynie to the sea, and returning in their boats with the fishes to the said harbour.* ”

“ *Item*,—*Because our immediate predecessor, John Pilmore, of worthy memory, intending to improve and deepen the course of the said harbour, laboured therein, neither by force, nor secretly, nor dependently, but in his own right, as master of the said harbour, and turned the course of the water out of its ancient channel, by sinking little boats there; the Earl of Moray and the burgesses*

“ burgesses of Elgin, who were at that time, knowing and permitting it.

“ *Item*,—Because we aver, and undertake to prove, that the said Bishops of Moray, each in his own time, had and were in the use of having, and we in our time have had, and now at present have fishers, with cobles and boats, for catching salmon, grilses, and finnacs, and other kinds of fish, with nets and hooks, singly and united, in the grounds in dispute, in name and right of the Table Episcopal of the Bishops of Moray, without impediment or opposition, the present dispute excepted, from the Earl of Moray, or from the burgesses of Elgin.

“ *Item*,—Because our predecessors and ourselves, and others in their name and in ours, have exercised, and do at present exercise, those acts of navigation, in conducting boats to the sea, and bringing them back, in throwing nets and hooks, and catching fish alone and in companies.”

It is not known whether Lossy was turned, clear of the lake, into its present course, by accident or design; but it is certain, that some time posterior to the age of Bishop Bar, the lake had been reduced to a less extent than its present bed; for when the ancient drain was improved into the present canal, the course of ridges wholly divested of sward, the formation of artificial roads, inclosures, and every token of ancient and unknown cultivation, most evidently and unexpectedly appeared. Among these, in a small island towards the western end of the lake, a quantity of peat-ashes were found, upon breaking up the ground, buried under the turf wall of a cottage, that had been inhabited; and among the ashes were found a small number of coins, a little treasure that had been concealed under the hearth, upon some alarm of danger. A causeway also at that time emerged, formed of freestone from the quarry, quite across the lake, with openings for the passage of the water, each about 3 feet wide, covered with broad flag stone. This revived the recollection of a circumstance then almost forgotten, that this causeway was called the *Bishop's Steps*, and had been formed by his order, to allow his vicar to get from St. Andrews, after the service of the forenoon, to officiate at Ogus-town in the evening of each Sunday. Near to the castle also, where the water was deepest, an artificial island was discovered, of an oval form, about 60 by 16 paces, appearing to be composed of stone

stone from the quarry, bound together by crooked branches of oak, and as if the earth with which it was completed had been washed away during its submersion.

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| The limits of the lake however, at this period of ancient cultivation, cannot now be accurately ascertained. Neglected most probably during the disastrous struggle between Episcopacy and Presbytery, it had spread out so as to extend to the length of 4 miles, and in no part of less breadth than one, covering the space of 2000 acres. Of these, Pitgaveny, by taking off 3 feet 4 inches of the depth of the lake, has, at his own expence, recovered 1162; of which there appertains to his own estate in the three parishes that have been already mentioned, | 800 acres. |
| To the estate of Gordonstown, in the parish of Drainy,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 104        |
| To the estate of Duffus; in the parish of Duffus,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 132        |
| To the estate of the Earl of Fife, in the parish of Spynie, including the Bishop's Precinct, belonging to the Crown,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 72         |
| To the estate of Findroffie, in the parish of Spynie,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 51         |
| And to the estate of Westfield in the same parish,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 3          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <hr/> 1162 |

But the whole of this extent has not been so completely drained as to admit of proper cultivation. Various speculations concerning this object have been suggested; but as the level every way has been accurately ascertained, the most proper course for the drain may be readily and certainly determined.

The deepest part of the lake to the eastward of the castle, probably where the harbour had been deepened by Bishop Pilmore, being ten feet, is found to be one lower than the channel of the river at low water in the harbour of Loffymouth; but an immediate communication with the low water-mark of the sea, upon the west of the Coulard hill, would at spring tides give a fall of nearly 15 feet, and at ordinary tides of nearly 10, which would be sufficient to drain the lake: but as by much the greater part of its bottom is now only from 4 to 5 feet deep, every advantageous purpose of improvement would be obtained, by bringing the present canal down within the harbour. But as the river Loffy, opposite to the bridge on the canal, in the road from Elgin to Loffymouth, is 5 inches higher than the canal, when both are in their

ordinary state, and is often raised by floods to the height of 7 or 8 feet above the surface of the lake, and being distant from the canal only from 7 to 130 yards, it will be requisite in this course, to raise a sufficient embankment along that side of the canal. This might be frugally accomplished, by disposing the earth that must be yet thrown out in completing the formation of the canal, in the form of a mound, as the banks are not yet shelving enough to stand in the gravelly soil through which its course is conducted. Were this effectuated, 6 or 700 acres of more land would be gained, and the whole laid more perfectly dry. The interest of the respective landlords in this acquisition may be readily inferred from what they have already obtained. It would be also practicable to have carriage by water, not only (as in the time of the Bishops) up to the castle of Spynie, but more than half a mile nearer to Elgin, along the course of the Sey Burn.

The lake of Cottes is on the other side of Lossy, but in the neighbourhood and on the same level with that of Spynie, but considerably nearer to the sea; and, being quite unconnected with the river, might be drained at an expence proportionally inconsiderable; and besides its own extent, which is about 120 acres, a great part of the adjoining swampy plain would be thereby greatly improved, and the country about Innes and Leuchars rendered more healthful. This lake is supported by two brooks, each of such consideration as to work the machinery of a corn mill. This quantity of water united would be sufficient to keep the canal from filling up, and might probably create, at the out-fall, a salmon-fishery of some consideration.

The third lake to be mentioned is Lochnaboe, in the south-east corner of the parish, described in the account of Urquhart. It is about 3 miles in circumference, containing a small island, prettily wooded. It is also surrounded by the forest which the deer now inhabit, and through which a road has been lately formed, offering an enchanting ride around the shaded margin of the placid lake. It might be drained at a small expence; but appearing to have been a moss, long since entirely dug up, the naked gravel of its bottom would hardly admit of cultivation.

## NUMBER IV.

## PARISH OF DRAINY.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE parishes which have been described may, in a general view, be considered as extending from the sea to the mountain; but here the country opens to the width of 10 or 12 miles, and a right line passing over the plain, by the church of Drainy, would measure the breadth of this parish, and that of Spynie and Elgin together. The coast from Speymouth to Loffymouth, mostly in the parish of Urquhart, lies in the direction from south-east to north-west, and has been described a low flat sandy shore. A rocky head-land, called Coulard, signifying in the Gaelic, *Back-height*, is here projected into the sea, round which the coast turning, trends more directly west to the head of the Frith at Beaulie. This head-land may be regarded as the termination of a ridge raised along the coast for the whole length of the parish, and continued far into Duffus, there being only one breach on the western end of the Coulard, through which the level land stretches to the sea. Between this ridge and the lake of Spynie, lies the parish of Drainy, a Gaelic word, importing, *the thorny field*, probably the natural production of the land about the church before it was cultivated. The parish is 2 miles in breadth, and 4 in length, with very little inequality of surface; yet scarcely one half of this plain is reduced to a state of cultivation, the greatest part consisting of barren moor, producing only short heath, or coarse benty grass. The land under cultivation is very fertile, partly a rich loam or clay, and partly a light, black, or sandy soil. The climate is wholesome and mild. In the marshy parts both of this and the parish of Duffus, agues were common about 30 years ago, but have for some time past been totally unknown.

*State of Property.]* Mr. Brander of Pitgaveny is the proprietor of the eastern quarter of the parish, the lands of Kinedur (in Gaelic, **CEAN-NA-DUR**, *the head in the water*), the valued rent of which is L.83*1. 12s. 8d.* Scots, and not quite L.500 sterling of real rent. The rest of the parish, except the village of Loffymouth, is the property of Alexr. Penrose Cuming Gordon of Altyr, Esq. the valued rent of which is L.22*13. 4s. 8d.* Scots: being a great part of the estate of Gor-

donstown; the family seat being near the western end of the parish, a great heavy square building, said to be in the Dutch style. A considerable part of the inside has never been finished. The approach is a straight road between square enclosures and plantations, with an artificial pond upon one side, about 300 yards in length, and 20 in breadth, with a little stagnant water spread over its miry bottom. The offices are built round a court perfectly circular, occupying one acre of ground, and the pavement of the court regularly concave. Some parts of this building are two stories high, which is supposed to be the cause, that in windy weather there is no shelter within the court. This form of building offices appears to be commodious, but has not been imitated. The real rent of the estate in this parish is about L. 800 sterling. The farms in general are small, there being only 3 that much exceed the extent of 100 acres: their number in whole is 68. The land rent, when paid in grain, is from a boll to a boll and an half of bear or oats, the Scots acre; but it is the practice to give 5 firlots of oats for the boll, nearly equal to the English quarter; when let for money, the acre gives from 15 s. to 21 s. Over a great part of the estate of Gordonstown, the tithes of corn were drawn in kind, the tenth sheaf being taken off the field by the proprietor. This was accounted equal to the third part of the rent, but it has of late been given up.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—The parishes of Kineadur and Ogestown were annexed in the year 1666, about which time the church was built, not in the most centrical situation of the present parish. The patronage is a pertinent of the estate of Gordonstown. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is 72 bolls barley and oats, and L. 52. 10s. sterling. The manse, and glebe which is about 5 acres, are at Kineadur, a mile eastward from the church. At this place also, is the burying ground of the old parish, where the vestiges of the castle, where the Bishop resided before that of Spynie was built, still remain. The burying ground is also continued in the parish of Ogestown, where a magnificent tomb in the Gothic style is raised over the vault of the family of Gordonstown. At the parochial school, there are about 60 scholars instructed in writing, arithmetic, reading English and Latin. The school salary is 12 bolls of barley, and L. 3 sterling from the office of session-clerk, besides the other perquisites and fees of parochial schools. The fund for the provision of the poor does not exceed L. 20 sterling yearly;

yearly ; from which the salary of the clerk and beadle being deducted, the balance contributes to the support of about 50 poor. The whole inhabitants are members of the Established Church, amounting to about 1040.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The village of Loffymouth is the harbour of the town of Elgin. A process carried on by Bishop Bar, respecting the right of this port, was incidentally mentioned in the foregoing Number. It appears to have been begun by his Lordship's arresting a ship, the property of two of the Burghesses. The narrative, in the 92d. fol. of the Chart. Mor. sets forth, “That “on Sunday the 7th of June, while the Lord Bishop was passing “from his castle of Kineadur towards the church of Urquhart, “through his water of Loffy, at the ford called Krannokissi, he “found a certain bark, namely *Farcoft*, lying in his said water, near “the sea ; to which coming, he asked at the only person who was “found on board, what the ship was called, to whom it appertained, and by whose permission it had entered that water, who “replied, The bark *Farcoft* was John de Lany’s, and had entered there by the burghesses of Elgin ; to whom the Bishop said, “that neither the burghesses, nor any other, could grant such authority or permission, for that water and the whole channel was “the property of the church of Moray, and appertained to him, “and to no other person, and on that account desired that a pledge “might be given him in name of arresting the said bark. That a “little ax was handed to the Lord Bishop, which, as only a pledge, “the seaman requested, in name of his master, might be returned, “which the Bishop granted on the condition of its being restored “upon demand.

“Likewise on the same day, in the year 1383, in the month “above-mentioned, the same Bishop, returning by the same road, “found at the said bark certain burghesses of Elgin, namely Philip “Byfet, and Henry Porter, taking out of the ship some barrels of “ale, and some sacks of tallow, and some of meal of wheat, together with horses and sledges standing upon his ground of Kineadur, which, together with the ship, he by his own proper authority arrested, as unwarrantably encroaching upon his church-lands, and gave up the same in pledge, at the instance of the said Philip requesting it, in the name of the community of his burgh, to be remitted to the said Bishop at his cathedral, upon

" eight days requisition, there to receive the issue and termination  
" which the laws have been in use to grant."

It must be presumed, that the Bishop prevailed in establishing his claim, which accordingly became a pertinent of the estate of Kineadur, and was only purchased by the magistracy of Elgin in the year 1698. In the conveyance, it is described as a piece of waste barren unmanured ground, and was nearly 80 acres of naked gravel and sand, with an allowance on the quarries of the Coullard, for the restricted purpose of building and upholding the pier, and for the accommodations requisite for the town of Lossiemouth; for which the community became bound to pay yearly L.2. 1s. 7d. subjecting the inhabitants of Lossiemouth to be poinded for any arrears that may be incurred; and to the courts of the superior, which he may hold either in the town or at the Burn of Kineadur, for any riot happening either among themselves or with the superior's tenants of the barony; and to send a burges of Elgin yearly to the head court, upon the first Thursday after Michaelmas, to answer in their name; and to allow the accommodation of the harbour to all ships and fishing boats appertaining to the superior, or freighted by any merchant upon his account, or employed by him for exportation or importation, without payment of any dues to the community. Besides irregular streets fronting towards the sea, the town is laid out into four principal streets, at right angles to the shore, each 42 feet wide, and commodious lanes cutting across the streets, equal to half their breadth, with a handsome square and cross in the midst. There are 175 feus marked off on the plan, each 120 by 180 feet, granted for the duty of 5s. each; but many remain to be taken, and many that have been granted are not yet built: but a number also of handsome houses of two and three stories, containing more than 200 inhabitants, have been erected. The harbour is sufficiently commodious for vessels about 80 tons burden. The community say, that, prior to the year 1780, L. 1200 sterling had been expended in the formation of the quay; since that time, a pier opposite on the other side the river, for clearing out the sand off the bar, has been erected at the expence of L. 2000 sterling, from the funds of the town, aided by private subscription, and a donation of L. 200 sterling from the Convention of Boroughs. The land end of this new pier was left unfinished, and unable to withstand the violence of winter storms;

storms. So much unheeded ruination has befallen it, that L. 200 sterling at present would be insufficient to prevent its accelerating subversion. There is only one sloop and two fishing boats belonging to Lossiemouth: but during one year 49 vessels from 55 to 60 tons arrived, of which loaded with English coals were,

|                                     |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Scots coals,                        | — | — | — | — | — | 20 |
| London goods,                       | — | — | — | — | — | 6  |
| Leith goods,                        | — | — | — | — | — | 10 |
| Tanner's bark,                      | — | — | — | — | — | 4  |
| Native salt,                        | — | — | — | — | — | 3  |
| Bottles, flates, iron, lime—each 1, | — | — | — | — | — | 2  |
|                                     |   |   |   |   |   | 4  |

Total, 49

The exports were 20 cargoes barley and oats, each at an average about 400 bolls, and an inconsiderable quantity of peltry. There are two other creeks in the parish, Stotfield and Covefea, which admit boats. On the estate of Kineadur are 3 fishing boats, each yielding a yearly rent of L. 5 sterling; but every seventh year the landlord is obliged to furnish a new boat, which, rigged complete, costs about L. 20 sterling. The fish commonly caught are cod, scate, holibut, haddocks, whiting, saiths, and crabs, but none in greater quantity than serves the consumption of the country. Of late, however, a lobster fishery has been undertaken in the bay of Stotfield, by an English company, for the London market, to which they are transported alive, in wells formed in the bottom of the ships, which communicate directly with the sea water: 60,000 were in this manner conveyed the first summer, without any other precaution, except tying their claws to their sides: they are caught by bait in small iron traps, though a simple invention, yet never used before on this coast. In the Coulard hill there are appearances of lead: many detached masses of ore are to be seen in the northern side of the hill, where the rock is limestone: some adventurers however, from England, several years ago, after expending about L. 500, could discover no vein worth working. But the greater part of the Coulard, with almost the whole of the ridge along the Covefea shore, consists of one uninterrupted mass of freestone, lying in horizontal strata, differing in thickness and in hardness; one kind being white, of a smooth, compact, and firm substance,

substance, yet readily yielding to the hammer or the chisel; the other kind more brown or yellow, softer, and more friable. There are about 20 masons and nearly 40 labourers constantly employed in quarrying and cutting stone to supply the demand from this and the neighbouring countries. The western part of this ridge, upon the Covesea coast, forms a very bold shore. The penetrating power of the surge in winter storms, with the reiterated play of the ocean, and the various whirl of the rebounding wave upon the projecting cliffs of the freestone rock, has formed several detached pyramids, towers, and arches, of various height and form, in some places resembling the broken shapeless windows in a Gothic ruin, having the sea boiling around their bases at each flow of the tide. Under this hill also, there is a number of caverns, of whose formation it is difficult to conjecture the origin, without supposing the sea at some period to have been so much higher on the coast as to have in secret wrought out the softer materials, which might have originally filled those shapeless vacuities. They all open directly to the sea; and it is likely that some of them may extend back to the land side of the hill, as their dark recesses have never been explored. Some of them are lofty even from the entrance, and their bounds every-where readily determinable; others, with a low entrance, become gloomily lofty, and uncomfortably damp within; others are low, dismal, dark, and damp, throughout all their windings. Neither the floor or roof of any are on the same level: some of the lightest are used as a shelter by the stone cutters, both from the heat and rain, and are in part filled by the chips and fragments. One of them was occupied as a stable to conceal the horses of the family of Gordonstown from the rebels, in the year 1745, and has the entrance built up into a neat door: another behind the village of Lossiemouth had, in ancient times, been formed into a small hermitage, not exceeding 12 feet square: it was completed by a handsome Gothic door and window, and commanded a long but a solitary view along the eastern shore. These artificial decorations were torn down about 30 years ago, by a rude shipmaster; and in the course of working the quarries, the whole cave has been destroyed. There was a fountain in the rock above the hermitage, called *St. Gerardine's Well*: but neither this, nor any other spring in the parish, has acquired fame for medicinal virtue.

The inhabitants, like all others employed in husbandry, are robust and healthy. They are in general a sober, honest, peaceable people, regular in their attendance on the ordinances of religion, rather grave than lively, seldom indulging themselves in any relaxation or diversion. Crimes of enormity are unknown among them: but this regularity of conduct must be in part ascribed to the poverty and depression of the people; for the situation of the smaller tenants in general is not comfortable. Few of them have any capital to set them out into the world, and fewer have the inclination, or the means, of adopting the modern improvements of husbandry, while the rents and the wages of servants have of late been considerably advanced. The women spin linen yarn, by which, with the greatest application, they can only earn 3d. by the day: even this yarn, what is necessary for home consumption excepted, is exported unwrought to Edinburgh, Glasgow, or the north of England.

## NUMBER V.

## PARISH OF DUFFUS.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—In every region of the earth where the climate and soil do not spontaneously afford the subsistence of man, it appears, by the earliest notices of history, that society were at first supported chiefly by the means of hunting; that from the hunter state, they made in general a sudden advance to that of the pastoral, indispensable to the more perfect state of agriculture.

In a country so narrow as this, it may be presumed, that its different quarters, even in the hunter state, would be distinguished by names, which, though not appropriate now, have been without change preserved. The name of Duffus, signifying in the Gaelic *black water*, carries back the imagination to that early state of society, when this flat country was an uncultivated forest, almost every where deformed by gloomy black pools of stagnate water. The plain between the lake of Spynie and the sea, continued for about five miles westward from Drainy, forms the whole extent of the parish of Duffus. Since taking off the water from the lake,

it is extended about 3 miles in breadth: but the lake is not continued now, far upon the south side, and the ridge along the coast is stretched only about one-third of the length, westward of which the shore is sandy and flat, raised only a few feet above the level of the sea. Towards the midst both of the plain and parish, at a little distance from the coast, the green arable hill of Roseisle embellishes the landscape. It is not doubted but the sea once communicated with the lake, along the west and south sides of this eminence, which then formed the termination of the isle, extended eastward to the head-land of the Coulard at Lossiemouth. Along the coast, the whole length of the parish, for the breadth of half a mile, may be considered as downs, the soil sandy, mixed with stone, in some places rising in green ridges, composed of lime-stone rock. Towards the middle of this poor benty pasturage, between the hill of Roseisle and the sea, some detached fields are cultivated, and one farm, of considerable extent, offers a solitary but commodious and pleasing residence. The rest of the parish is an unbroken arable field, for the greater part a deep rich clay, of the same kind with the carse soil of Gowrie or Falkirk, producing weighty crops of wheat, pease, and beans. Towards its western end, the soil is black earth, very fertile, yielding crops of barley not to be surpassed in earliness, quality, or increase, in any part of Scotland. In some places of this quarter, the soil is so mixed with sand as to be deprived of much of its fertility, and a great proportion of it hath been deeply covered by dry sand, drifted almost ten miles from Coulbin, and its cultivation by man for several generations suspended, except a few small patches, which have of late been recovered by bringing the soil above the sand by the spade.

*State of Property.]*—The valued rent of the parish, amounting to L.3120. 6s. 1d. Scots, is shared among 5 proprietors, of whom Sir Archibald Dunbar only is resident, in a handsome modern seat, placed in a small park, sheltered on the north by the church and the village of Duffus, and on the other three sides bounded by fields, and stripes of plantation. It commands an extensive landscape, embellished by every rural decoration. His property in this parish is valued at L.1800 Scots. A considerable part of the estate of Gordonstown, lately augmented by the purchase of the lands of Roseisle, with which a part of it lay blended, lies also in this parish, amounting now to the valuation of L.1019 Scots. Mr. Brander

der of Pitgaveny, as was observed, holds a considerable part of the extent of this parish, but yet so incompletely drained, as not to admit of perfect cultivation: it is valued at L.244. 18s. 11d. Scots. The other two properties are inconsiderable: the one belonging to Mr. Baron Gordon of Clunie is valued at L.36. 7s. 2d. Scots, and the other appertaining to Mr. Lewis Kay only at L.20. The farms are but of small extent: two only exceed 100 acres. A great proportion of the parish is rented at L.1 sterling the acre, and the average equals three-fourths of that rate.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church is incommodiously situated in the east end of a parish of such length. The burying place is a small square inclosure around the church, having a pretty broad road on each of its sides, rather roughly causeyed, but the workmanship of a party of soldiers who were stationed here by Cromwell. The stipend, by decree 1793, is 8 chalders of bear, and L.38. 6s. 8d. sterling, including the allowance for the communion. The patronage has been in the possession of Sir Archibald Dunbar and his authors, since the year 1587. With the fees for teaching already stated, and the statutory salary as session clerk, the schoolmaster has an establishment of 7 bolls and nearly 3 firlots of bear; the number of scholars amounting to about 50. The only provision for the poor arises from the halfpence contributed by the tenants and their families who attend the parochial church, amounting to about L.14 sterling in the year, which, without expence to the heritors, contributes to the subsistence of about 60 indigent persons, the number enrolled in the lists of the session. The members of the Established Church amount to 1760: there are 30 Episcopilians, who, with a few neighbours from the parishes of Spynie and Alves, have maintained a small meeting ever since it was the national religion: and there are 4 Seceders, of the Antiburger sect. There is a small burying ground at Burgh-head, for the accommodation of that village: there was a chapel also there, where public worship was long ago performed by the minister of the parish. Two hamlets bear the name of College, namely Roseisle and Unthank. At the last of these, the foundations of the chapel were lately taken up to repair the mill.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—The people, although poor and depressed, are not querulous: they are peaceable and well-disposed: and the dislike of each other, on the account of diversity of religi-

ous opinions and modes of worship, has greatly subsided among them. They are sober, and but little addicted to the intemperate use of spirituous liquors. The village of Burgh-head on the coast, the property of Sir Archibald Dunbar, contains about 400 souls. A small number of the men are quarriers and stone-cutters; but the greater number follow a sea-faring life: 7 large boats, with 6 people on board, are hired for the Western Fishery; 5 of the same kind are employed in freighting commodities along the coast; 2 sloops; besides, are employed in transporting grain to the south of Scotland, and in bringing back coals; and there are a few small boats employed in fishing. At this village, nature has pointed out a station for a deep, capacious, and safe harbour. It could be formed at a moderate expence, the stone just waiting to be cut from the adjoining rock; and, with little precaution, success would be certain. Along the whole southern coast of the Moray Frith, from Buchan-ness, upwards of 100 miles, to Inverness, there is no good or safe harbour. The advantage, therefore, of this undertaking appears in the strongest light, there being water of any necessary depth, on a fine bottom of blue clay, moss, or sand, and shelter from every dangerous wind. It is nearly at equal distance from Elgin and Forres, and, with a good harbour, it would soon become the port of both towns. Commerce and manufacture would of consequence settle in this part of the country; and, with an increasing rise in the value of the neighbouring farms, all the various advantages arising from them would quickly follow. Here at present there is only a fishery, and but of small consideration. Cod, skate, ling, are sold at 1d. and 1½d. the lb. There are also hollibut, mackerel, saith, and whiting. Turbot are on the coast; but the people are not instructed in the art of fishing for them. Haddocks have been for years in fewer numbers, and farther from the land, in deeper water than formerly. They sell at 1d. each, 6 times dearer than before. The ancient fortifications of Old Duffus and Burgh-head have been already described. Near the western end of the ridge along the shore, where the rocks rise to a great height, the foundation of a castle called Inverugie remains. It was occasionally the residence of the family of Marischal, who once held the third part of the property of the parish, and was named after their chief seat in Buchan. It appears that in this parish many battles had in former times been fought: burying ground is to be found about almost

almost every hamlet; and in many of them skeletons of human bodies have been accidentally dug up, and this has given rise to many fairy hillocks and grounds where witches met together. Near the western end of the parish, there had been a place of worship at a farm called Kirkhill, where the remains of the cross and some of the buildings are still visible.

In several places are indications of iron ore and coal: all the water seems surcharged with iron, and in one field, near Duffus house, there is a strong chalybeate spring; near to which appears a black hard earth, mixed with stone resembling the refuse of a forge.

Although now there is no natural wood in the parish, yet from old tradition, and from rotten logs of wood found in the corn-fields and pastures, throughout the whole lower grounds, and even in the stiffest clay soil, this part of the country must have once been an entire forest, of different kinds of timber, oak, alder, birch, hazel, and fir: and it is reported, that the oppressed inhabitants were compelled by the Danes to carry oak from the valley near Roseisle to build their ships at Burgh-head.

#### NUMBER VI.

#### PARISH OF SPYNIE.

*Soil, Situation, Climate.]*—Although the lake of Spynie has retired a considerable space from the west end of the parish, and although the river Lossie does not cover the whole of its southern side, yet the parish may be in general considered as lying between the river and the lake. From near the precinct of the castle of Spynie at the east, a ridge of moor stretches the whole length, about 4 miles, rising gradually towards the west into a pretty high hill. Upon each side of this hill lies the whole of the cultivated land, extending the general breadth of the parish, nearly equal to its length, and including almost every variety of soil, from the heaviest clay to the lightest sand. On the southern side of the hill, along the banks of the Lossie, the air is peculiarly mild and warm, during a great proportion of the year. On the northern side the climate is not so pleasant: the soil is wet and cold; the lake and the adjoining low-ground, imperfectly drained, often emit a disagreeable fog, yet without

without any bad effect on the health of the inhabitants, there being no disease more prevalent here than in any other part of the country. It has been already observed, that the parishes of Drainy and of Duffus lie upon the north side, and between Spynie and the sea; the parish of Elgin lies along the whole length of its southern confines; and a fine field, a plain of 40 acres, reaches close up to the north side of the town; the river having once run up hard by, as appears by title deeds of the adjoining tenements, which still bound them by the river, although this broad plain, the property of the Earl of Findlater, has been from time immemorial interjected. The reverse of this has happened a little lower down, in a small semi-circular field called the *Dean's Crook*, which has been cut off from the cathedral lands of Elgin, by the river occupying the diameter instead of the periphery, which till of late remained a reedy pond.

*State of Property.*.—The valued rent of the parish, amounting to L.3055. 13s. 8d. Scots, is divided among four proprietors, of whom the Earl of Fife, holding the lands of Spynie, Morristown, Sheriffmill, Auldray, Leigate, Rosehaugh, Quarrywood, and Kintrae, has the valuation of L.1691. 3s. 8d. The Earl of Findlater, holding Bishopmill, Myreside, and Burrowbriggs, has L.547. 8s. 8d. Francis Russel of Blackhall Esq. advocate, has Westfield, being valued at L.488. 16s. 2d.; and John Leslie Esq. writer to the signet, has Findrossie, valued at L.327. 5s. 2d. The public burdens of the parish are supported by these proprietors; but, besides them, the precincts of the castle of Spynie, being 10 acres, and yielding a revenue of L.12 sterling, is the property of the Crown. James Milne Esq. has the Mills of Bishopmill, and a small contiguous property, which, with another small feu, the property of John Ritchie Esq. merchant in Elgin, is included in the valuation appertaining to the Earl of Findlater. These mills, on the river Lossie, comprehend machinery for making all the varieties of pot barley, and for grinding wheat and other grain, of the most improved and newest construction; and a little farther down the river, on Mr. Ritchie's feu, there is a field and the most complete machinery, whereby the bleaching of linen and of thread is carried on to a great extent, in the most advantageous manner.

The lands, for the most part, are occupied in small farms, there being only three that equal or exceed 100 acres. The clay soil produces more weighty crops than the sandy, and affords about a

fifth part more rent, although, on account of the additional expence which attends its management, it is reckoned by many not the most profitable, the labour being often suspended by the wet during a great part of the winter and the beginning of spring, while all the necessary operations of husbandry are prosecuted on the drier lands. Consequently a greater proportion of servants and cattle is required, and the crop, being in general more late, is exposed to greater damage in harvest. A considerable proportion, however, of this kind of soil is rented at a guinea the acre, while the sandy soil only brings from 10s. to 17s. The estate of Westfield was lately modelled into allotments from 20 to 40 acres, and let at the rate of nearly L.2. the acre; yet the mean rent over the whole parish cannot be estimated higher than L.1. 3s. the acre.

It will not be deemed improper to take notice of the cultivation of the farm of Sheriffmill, rented by James Walker, Esq. M. D. This gentleman in the early part of his life entered with all the ardor of enthusiasm into the horse-hoeing husbandry, in which he has ever since persevered with unfailing steadiness, raising crops of wheat, barley, and beans, in drills, without a particle of dung, always fallowing the intervals, about 3 feet, for each succeeding crop; hereby completely demonstrating the effect of cultivation without the use of manure. Although every operation has been performed with the nicest accuracy, and in its proper season, and though the light sandy soil of Sheriffmill seems well adapted for this kind of husbandry, yet the result has not been such as to encourage imitation. The quality of the wheat, though raised successively on the same field for the space of almost 20 years, without dung, has not been impaired; but the quantity by the acre is less in a very great degree than is raised in the broadcast way in the same kind of soil, well plowed and manured.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The manse and church were pleasantly situated at the eastern extremity of the parish, in the vicinity of the Castle, until the year 1736, when they were removed to Quarrywood—a centrical, but a bleak situation, nearly under the highest part of the north side of the hill. The glebe and garden, consisting of about 6 acres, are enclosed with stone walls. The burying ground has been continued in the original situation, in the east end of the parish. The stipend, and allowance for the expence of the communion,

communion, are 4 chalders of barley, and 1 chalder of meal, and L.46. 6s. 8d. sterling.

The right of patronage at present is perhaps not fully ascertained. A brief detail of the circumstances which are publicly known relating to it, is all that can be here stated. Before the abolition of Episcopacy, in the year 1640, the patronage appears by the ecclesiastical records to have been undisputed in the family of Innes; and they exercised it undisturbed unto the present times, save for the short interval of its general abolition, during which they preserved their possession by the disposal of the vacant stipends, and by preventing the benefice being impaired, by objecting to the annexation of the land of Burrowbriggs to the parish of Elgin. At the settlement, however, of the last incumbent, the Duke of Gordon claimed the patronage, and conjoined in the presentation with Sir James Innes, who before the late settlement had disposed of his rights to the Earl of Fife, on which occasion the patronage was also claimed by Col. Fullarton of Boisack, as the heir of Alexander Lindsay, Lord Spynie, in whose behalf the church-lands of the bishoprick which remained at the Reformation, with the feu-duties and patronages, were by James VI. erected into a temporal lordship. The Colonel conjoined with the Earl in the presentation; but their presentee being in the mean time elsewhere appointed, the Peers made an agreement for that vice, in which the Colonel did not farther interfere; but since the settlement, the right of patronage has been decided by the Court of Session in his favour. During the course of the litigation, however, the Duke recovered an ancient and more special evidence of the validity of his claim, on which he has brought it again under the review of the Court.

The school is a mean cottage, and the accommodation for the master miserably wretched. It was built about half a mile northward from the church, on a sterile moor, a corner of which, during the hours of vacation, had been, by the industry of successive masters, cultivated, exciting them to a degree of exercise advantageous to their health, while it improved their slender subsistence by its produce of potatoes and other vegetables. As by these means so much has been added to the revenue and territory of the landlord, who has some time exacted an adequate rent, and as there is a considerable extent of adjoining rocky moor, yielding no pasturage

of any value, and only improveable by the manual labour of the spade, it would perhaps be but equity to the schoolmaster, to allocate an acre in any convenient corner, which he might in the meantime improve, and to which the school might be removed, when it needs to be rebuilt. His present appointment is L. 4 sterling, paid by the landlords, and 8 bolls of meal, collected from the tenants, in proportion to their respective rents, with the usual fees of teaching, and the pittance annexed to the office of session clerk.

Besides the halfpence contributed by the people in the church, the provision for the poor arises from the interest of a donation by Mary Bannerman, a widow lady of the family of Findrossie, in the year 1707, accumulated at present to L. 111. 2s. 6d. sterling, double the original endowment. It is placed with the Magistracy of Elgin, and under the care of the proprietors of Bishopmill, Westfield, and Findrossie. The Rev. William Dougal, minister of the parish, left a similar endowment, almost L. 17 of principal, half of its interest to be applied in buying bibles for poor children; and his maiden daughter, Katharine, by her will in the year 1793, bequeaths L. 20 sterling, for the education of two girls successively, for two years in reading, writing, and arithmetic, when 6 or 7 years old, and for the next two years in knitting hose, and sewing linens. This endowment is in the patronage of the session, but limited to the legitimate children of Presbyterians. The members of the Established Church amount to 779: there are 20 of the Episcopalian profession, and 1 Seceder.

*Miscellaneous Information.* ]—The people are industrious and frugal, maintaining also other virtues, not so much the necessary consequence of their situation, being in general honest, benevolent, and friendly, entertaining also a high respect for the ordinances of religion. The names of many of the places are of the Gaelic language: Kintrea, *the head of the tide*, when the lake was an arm of the sea; Inshagarty, *the Priest's island*; Leigate, the original LAGNA-FHAD, *the long hollow*. On the south side of the hill, towards its western end, there is a large extent of natural oak wood, the property of the Earl of Fife. It is well preserved, properly thinned, and, when full-grown, will be again of great value. Under a thin stratum of moorish soil, the greater part of the hill is a mass of hard excellent free-stone, of which a quarry near the summit is wrought to a considerable extent, supplying all the country with

mill-stones, and Elgin and its neighbourhood with stone for building. On this hill, the traces of the Danish camp that has been mentioned are still conspicuous, but must in a short time be effaced, by having been, indiscriminately with the circumjacent moor, planted over with Scots fir. Were the noble owner apprized of this, he might perhaps, from his distinguished taste, be induced to give instructions for the preservation of such a monument of ancient national history, still attesting the truth of venerable records, that our ancestors were for more than a year subjected to the most cruel and oppressive servitude, being without distinction of rank or sex compelled to undergo the most intolerable labour, to every species of the most grievous exactation, and to the most wanton murder, by an encampment of hostile barbarians in the heart of the country. By such a monument, the passing generation may be inspired with thankfulness to a good Providence, and also taught the value of the present government, whose energy prevents the most transient apprehensions of such insulting cruelties from their enemies, equally rapacious and more blood-thirsty than the northern savages of the eleventh century.

In preceding times also, the accommodations of civil life, and the state of the useful arts, were vastly inferior to those of modern times. The erecting the machinery of a corn-mill could not then be undertaken by any person in a rank inferior to a Baron, a Bishop, or an hereditary Sheriff. The particular year 1237, in which the mill of Sheriffmill was built, is specially ascertained by the remarkable circumstance of the ground for its situation being the first dilapidation of the revenues of the bishoprick, in the 7th incumbency, by that respectable Bishop who laid the foundation of the great cathedral, Andrew de Moravia, of the family of Duffus, in favour of his brother. The conveyance is to this effect—

“ Know all, that we, by the consent and free-will of our chapter,  
 “ have given and granted, and by this our charter have confirmed,  
 “ to Walter de Moravia, and his heirs, one station for a mill on  
 “ Loffie, in our land of *Auchter Spynie*, on the eastern part of  
 “ *Roger* in the same land, to grind their corn and that of their  
 “ people, as freely, quietly, and fully, as any Baron in *Moray*,  
 “ upon delivering to us and our successors, as an acknowledgment,  
 “ each year at the feast of Whitsunday, one pound weight of pep-  
 “ per, and another of cumin.”—*Chart. of Mor.* fol. 32.—And this  
 mill,

mill, though at the distance of 6 miles, has ever since continued to be the mill of the barony, at present the property of Sir Archd. Dunbar of Duffus. In those times, however, it appears, that even uncultivated ground was of the same importance as at present. About ten years before this dilapidation, a formal contract had been ratified between the same brothers, in a style similar, but more brief, than the deeds of the present day. The narrative represents—  
“ Whereas there is a dispute between Andrew, bishop of Moray,  
“ on the one part, and Walter de Moravia, son of the late Hugh  
“ de Moravia, respecting a servitude on the moors and woods of  
“ Spynie and Finrossie, which the said Walter alleges was of old  
“ obtained by his predecessors, and asserts to have been granted and  
“ confirmed to his father, by a charter from Bricius, of worthy  
“ memory, late Lord Bishop of Moray, upon delivering each year,  
“ as an acknowledgment, an half stone of wax, it is thus amicably  
“ settled between them, the chapter of the cathedral of Moray  
“ willing and consenting: namely, that the said Walter and his  
“ heirs shall have in perpetuity to themselves and their families, a  
“ servitude upon the said woods and moors on the west side of the  
“ highway which comes from the castle of Duffus to Levenford  
“ in this manner, that the moor may be used by digging; but on  
“ the east side of the said road they make it common, the said Wal-  
“ ter and his heirs paying yearly at Whitsunday to the Bishops of  
“ Moray, one merk sterling of lawful money, for all service and  
“ exaction pertaining to the said Bishops.”—And in 1248, twenty-  
two years after the date of this contract, another agreement is  
made between their successors, Simon the Bishop, and Freskyn,  
the son of Walter. To the preceding concession the Bishop adds  
the land of Logynhavedall, and instead of the merk obtains again  
the possession, in common, of the pasturage and woods as far as  
Saltcot, which is between Finrossie and Kintray. It is also in-  
structed by the Chart. that the lands of Quarrywood, not then un-  
der cultivation, made part of the pasturage at that time of such im-  
portance; for it appears by a reclaiming petition, directed by Dr.  
Alexander Bar, Bishop in 1369, to the honourable and potent lord  
Archibald Douglas, knight, that they were then but recently culti-  
vated. This Bishop, who, as has been shown, possessed in some  
degree the spirit of litigation, thus addresses him:—“ Honourable  
and noble Sir, you and John de Kay, sheriff of Inverness, have

" determined a certain process in such manner, as God knows to  
 " the grievous injury of the priory of Pluscarden, and to the great  
 " prejudice of the jurisdiction of the church, which we crave to  
 " have by you recalled; for we assert and declare, that Alexander,  
 " King of Scotland, of pious memory, gifted to the prior and  
 " monks of Pluscarden, his mills of Elgin and Forres, and other  
 " mills depending on them, and the moults of the lands of those  
 " mills, which he then received, or ought to have received, as they  
 " were for the deliverance of his soul, which moults of the  
 " lands then arable, by virtue of the donation, the said prior and  
 " monks have received, like as they yet without dispute receive:  
 " and whereas the moults of the lands of Quarrywood, in the  
 " sherrifdom of Elgin, at that time unimproved, but now reduced  
 " to cultivation, belongs and appertains to the mill of Elgin, from  
 " which it is scarcely a mile distant, because if it had been at  
 " that time cultivated, the moults thereof would and ought to  
 " have received by the Royal granter."—The petition, after in-  
 structing more valid rights, and undisturbed possession, with the  
 knowledge and tolerance of Robert Chisholme, knight, during the  
 preceding reigns, " farther asserts and declares, that the said Robert  
 " seized and bound a certain husbandman of the lands of Finroffie,  
 " to whom the Prior had by contract let the said moults, and  
 " thrown him into a private prison, by which he directly incurred  
 " the sentence of excommunication."—The petition proceeds to  
 shew cause why the action could not be determined by the civil,  
 but by the ecclesiastical court, and concludes by threatening to ex-  
 communicate the civil judges, if they attempted any thing farther,  
 by which the priory might be wronged, or the jurisdiction of the  
 Church injured.

The whole roll of the Bishops of Moray, from the first erection of the diocese by Alexander I. about the year 1120, to the final abolition of prelacy in the year 1688, a space of 568 years, amounted to the number of 37, about 16 years to each incumbency. Although none of them made any conspicuous figure as statesmen, yet both in the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches, several appear to have been respectable, and to have possessed the confidence of their respective contemporaries. Several estates are still bounded according to decrets arbitral of Colin Falconer, the last Bishop who inhabited the castle of Spynie, and who died in 1686.

The

The whole country, of every rank, attended his funeral. He had two successors, Alexander Rose and William Hay; but neither of them had any personal residence, in their official character, in this magnificent castle, which has been above described.



## NUMBER VII.

## PARISH OF ELGIN.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—It is by the chartulary of Moray established, that, prior to the year 1226, the name of the town, which is extended to that of the parish, was *Helgyn*, which it most probably obtained from one of those many Norwegian chiefs who bore the name of *Helgy*; and who, according to *Torfaeus*, conquering Moray and the countries on the north, by the forces of *Sigurd, Earl of Orkney*, built this town, in its southern quarter, almost 900 years ago. The particle *en*, or *an*, marking the genitive case in the Celtic, makes *Helgyn* to signify *of Helgy*: sundry etymologies however have been also suggested from the *Gaelic*; the most specious among them is, *EL*, *place*, and *CEAN*, *the head*.

The town is placed in the north-east corner of the parish, *Spynie* lying close upon the north, and *St. Andrews Lhanbryd* on the east. The parish is stretched southerly from the town, over the widest part of the plain, for 6 miles, towards the side of the mountain, which in this quarter, by a direct approximation to the Frith, at once reduces the champaign of Moray to half the breadth to which it had gradually widened from its narrowest beginning on the bank of the *Spey*. Through this encroachment of the mountain upon the plain, a vale is opened; nearly parallel to the Frith, along the course of the *Lolky*; and the lesser river of *Lochty*, winding through the deep dale of *Pluscarden*, extends the length of the parish westerly to the borders of *Rafford*, at the distance of 10 miles from the town.

The soil, in general, may be described as sandy, although in many places it is fertile loam, and in some a rich clay. The climate is warm, healthful, and serene.

*State of Property.*]—The country district of the parish is shared among

among six proprietors. The Earl of Fife's property is valued in the cens roll at L.2896. 14s. 4d. Scots. The Earl of Moray has Pitnadriech, and Upper and Nether Monbean, at L.1274. 8s. 4d. The honourable George Duff, of the family of Fife, has Milltown, Invertochty, and Bilbohall, at L.1189. 9s. Sir Archibald Dunbar of Northfield, bart. has Blackhills, on which there is a commodious mansion-house, spacious well-stocked gardens, and extensive plantations, valued at L.208. 2s. 2d. The Earl of Findlater has Main, at L.203. 16s. 8d. upon which are a spacious handsome house and gardens, with much ornamented ground, and a great extent and variety of plantations. Peter Rose Watson of Cottfield has Westertown of Plufcarden, at L.71. 3s. 6d. The lands holding of the community, shared among the burgesses, with a part acquired by the Earls of Fife and Findlater, are valued at L.486. 7s. 4d. extending the valued rent of the whole parish to L.6330. 1s. 4d.

The farms are of various extent: a few about 100 acres, a considerable number between 30 and 40, and some under 20. The mean rent of the land in the vicinity of the town is L.2 sterling the acre, and from 15s. to 18s. in the country.

The town is well built: the houses, in general, are either new or of late improved, according to the modern ideas of handsome accommodation: it consists of one principal street, in a winding course, for little more than a mile, from east to west, widened to such breadth towards the middle of the town as to have the church awkwardly placed upon it, and, at a little distance farther on, the town-house, a mean building, adjoined to a clumsy square tower, almost without windows, which contains the hall where the courts and county-meetings are held, and the common goal. Behind the houses which front the street, buildings are carried back on either side, in narrow lanes, for the length of 8 or 10 dwellings, in some cases separate properties, and containing for most part distinct families. Many of these lanes terminate in the gardens, affording a more immediate access to the country than the few public avenues offer. The water of the pit-wells in the town is a little brackish: a considerable quantity of this commodity must be therefore carried from the river, although distant from the town.

The oldest charter among the archives is granted by Alexander II. in the year 1234, giving and confirming to his burgesses of Elgyn

Elgyn a guild of merchants, with as ample privileges as any burgh in Scotland.

James II. by charter 1457, confirms the grants of his predecessors, particularly the lands of Mosstowie, Dowalgreen, Grieveship, and Strathcant.

James VI. by charter 1620, grants the hospital of *Maison Dieu*, with the patronage and tiends thereof, Upper and Nether Monbean, and Haugh, Upper and Nether Pitnasear, Upper and Nether Kirkdales in Knockando.

Charles I. by charter 1633, confirms the lands already mentioned, adding Glassgreen; Upper Barflatihills, Bogside, with the mill lands and multures of Kirkdales, the Blackfriar Croft, and the lands and gardens belonging to the *predicant* brethren on the north side of the burgh; and all the ports and stations, bays and creeks of Spey and Lossy, and between Spey and Findorn, where any ship or boat can be received; with power to hold the six great fairs and the weekly market, and that none else shall hold fairs or markets within 4 miles of town; and to hold courts, appoint officers, and enjoy all the privileges and immunities appertaining to royal burghs. In 1641, by a charter ratified in parliament, March 8, 1645, the King adds the right of patronage of two ministers and one reader. It must however be presumed, that the community at no time possessed the whole property which these charters convey; for in 60 years after the date of the last, they made a bargain with the proprietor of Kinnedur for the only harbour which they ever possessed, and which might be rendered of little consequence by proper keys at the more secure and commodious stations of Burgh-head, Covefea, and Stotfield; nor have they ever claimed any perquisite from the trade carried on at Spey; and a great annual fair has been always held at Lhanbryd, within half the distance from the town which the latest charter allows. The lands conveyed by these charters yield at present a revenue of nearly L. 1200, while the income of the community, arising mostly from feu-duties, market tolls, and a few fields about town, does not exceed L. 200.

Their internal government was ratified by the Convention of Boroughs in 1706, by which the magistracy consists of the Provost, 4 Bailies, and 12 Counsellors, annually elected by themselves, with the change only of 5: but residenting burgesses only are eligible. The Council nominate a jury of other 15, to apportion the taxes

taxes affecting the trade; but no private tax can be imposed, without the consent of a majority of burgesses assembled in the head court, which can only sit upon the 2d Tuesday of September, in which the state of the borough, and the expenditure of the revenue, may be investigated; and for the general satisfaction, the books and accounts are ordered to be submitted to public inspection, for the 20 preceding days.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—The parish is accommodated with two ministers of the Established Church, each with an appointment of £.50, and 127 bolls of barley, including the expence of the communion, which each of them celebrates once a year. They have a small glebe in common, a part of which was specially designed for a situation for their manses; but the Court of Session determined, that the proprietors of the parish were not, as in common cases, bound to build houses for the ministers of Elgin; and the incalculable expence of civil justice in this kingdom deters them from suing for redress. The church appears a low, clumsy, misshapen building, at once deforming and incumbering the street. Its length is 80 feet, and its breadth 60; but two rows of massive cylindrical columns divide the floor into 3 compartments, nearly from one end to the other; the pulpit is placed in the middle space between the columns, and is wholly lighted by a Gothic window in the west gable: the steeple is upon the east end, and, being still unfinished, is only a very little higher than the church, of which its bottom is a part, while its top accommodates the clock and two well-toned bells; the steeple on each side is supported by an aisle, which were originally tombs, though in one of them the ecclesiastical courts occasionally meet. On the east, the steeple is also supported by a shapeless hulk of another church, almost in ruins now, though once the subject of an appeal from the High Court of Justiciary to the House of Peers, in a prosecution for ejecting the minister of the Episcopalian congregation. It is now a place of worship, in some respects on a similar establishment to that of Lady Glenorchy's chapel in Edinburgh. The congregation is composed of people both of the town and country parishes around, who elude the law of patronage, though professing themselves of the national church. They ordain or instal the preacher themselves, that is, a few who take the lead among them, without the moderation of a call, so requisite by Presbyterian principles, and without the smallest concurrence

ference or approbation whatever of any ecclesiastical judicature, of whose jurisdiction, or regulations at least, he is independent; he possesses, however, all the countenance and almost every benefit arising from the national church, unless it be a legal security for the stipend, without which however he must make his doctrine palatable, whether evangelical or not. He holds communion with the ministers of the town, and has the countenance also of several of the magistracy and eldership. His appointment is equal to £. 40. sterling yearly, arising from the rents of the seats, and from two endowments, each of £. 5. yearly, one bequeathed by a Dr. Gordon, and the other by Mr. David Rintoul, one of the ministers of Elgin. Notwithstanding the charter granted by King Charles, and ratified as above by the parliament, the crown has always continued to exercise the right of patronage.

The valley of Pluscarden is the only district of the country which seems to suffer by the substitution of the Reformed for the Roman Catholic religion, by which they enjoyed the pompous establishment of the priory in the midst of this sequestered vale. The minds of the people were cheered through the day, and soothed during even the stillness of the midnight hour, by the solemn sound of the consecrated bells, calling the venerable inmates to their statutory devotions; and they had access to the consolations of 16 holy men, in every season of distress, with the free and easy accommodation of the most splendid social worship; they had the means also of educating in the most commodious manner their little ones, in a share of the literature of the times; and numberless important advantages beside must have accrued from the wealth of this establishment, expended among them, and from the resort of strangers of every rank, upon amusement, business, or devotion, to this magnificently sacred and hospitable abode. Now all is cold and silent, forlorn and melancholy desolation: every thing pleasant and useful is vanquished: no national establishment, nor any private institution, for their assistance in civil or religious erudition, within the distance of ten miles. By the royal bounty, they once indeed had a missionary; but his appointment was gradually frittered down to insignificance, and for many years has been totally withdrawn. They were of late flattered with the expectation of a schoolmaster, by the Society for Christian Knowledge; but the proprietors withheld the accommodations which the regulations of the society required. Unless the children are taught to read the bible, their parents be-

hence they prove faithless to the vows they made when their little ones were baptized: and in the present times, the profession of a taylor, or a blacksmith, requires the knowledge in some degree of writing and accounts. The people therefore of this district, consisting of about 100 families, support a schoolmaster wholly from their own funds, which must no doubt become ultimately a burden affecting the land-rent.

They have without a murmur maintained also a Chapel of Ease among themselves, for almost forty years. Of late only they have been aided by a bequeathment of L.5 yearly, by the late Dr. Hay, one of the ministers of the town: the Earl of Fife also adds a donation of L.3 yearly, which enables the incumbent to discharge the rent of a house and 2 or 3 acres of land, rented from his Lordship: the ministers of Elgin also are in the practice of giving each a guinea in the year: by all which means, the whole appointment extends to the yearly income of L.20 sterling. Such however is the impression of the undiscerning zeal of reformation which still remains, that although several vaulted apartments within the abbey are so entire as to have needed only windows and a door, yet the people built a homely chapel, lest they should be polluted by this fabric of anti-christian idolatry. The Earl of Fife assists them in the repairs of the chapel, and on that account he enjoys the patronage of it. Besides these congregations of the Established Church, there are in the town two chapels of Episcopalian, one of Seceders, one of Methodists, and one of the church of Rome: but all these dissenting meetings have a considerable number of their members from the adjoining parishes: their number in this parish exceeds not 700, while the establishment reckons nearly 3800.

There are two schools, chiefly supported by the revenues of the town. The grant of the property of the Roman Catholic Establishment of Maison Dieu by James VI. in the year 1620, is destined, after maintaining a few poor, for the support of a teacher of "music, and the other liberal sciences;" for which, with the fees from scholars, and the perquisites of the office of session-clerk, he has moreover a salary of L.15 sterling yearly. The town have also established a master, in a separate edifice, for classical learning, with an appointment of L.21, which arises in part from some small bequeathments in favour of this establishment, two of which have lately made a small addition to this endowment. The proprietors

of the land bear no part of the expence of either of these schools, in which originally these rudimental parts of literature were conducted as it were in separate monopolies; the one having been interdicted from teaching Latin, and the other, the reading of English: but experience having shewn, that every kind of monopoly, the East India trade alone excepted, is disadvantageous to society, the number of scholars in both has for some time past been regulated only by the diligence or success of the masters, in neither of whom at present is superiority even by this trial manifested.

Experience has demonstrated, that, like the grave, the poor never say "it is enough;" that, however munificent the provision made for them may be, their wants are not supplied, their number is only increased. It is not yet 200 years since any public funds were destined for the poor. Before the Reformation, all pious donations were made only to the Church, and the poor were wholly trusted to the care of Providence: but in the present times, per-  
versely said to be so much degenerated, the collections made in the church, about L.45 sterling, are, by the yearly interest of a fund, extended to L.53, under the management of the session, which, by bequeathments under the direction of the Magistrates, are still farther augmented to the sum of L.71, for the annual support of the poor enlisted on the parish roll. Besides which, Mr. Cumine of Pitullie, once Provost of the town, bequeathed a capital of about L.336 sterling, for the maintenance of 4 disabled members of the Guild, nominated alternately by his heirs and the Magistrates, to the sum of L.8 sterling yearly, with a house and garden to each; and by the royal endowment of Maison Dieu, other 4 disabled men are provided with a house, garden, gown, and 4 bolls of barley in the year to each. Besides these, the Guild of Elgin have a growing fund, by entries and a yearly contribution by each individual of as. amounting to a revenue of almost L.80 sterling yearly, though as yet about L.40 only is divided among their widows and impoverished members.

After their example, the 6 corporations, weavers, taylors, glovers, shoemakers, smiths, and wrights, have each their respective capital for widows and disabled members, arising from entry money and annual contributions.

There are also two Friendly Societies: the members of each contribute 7d. monthly.

There

There are also two Mason Lodges, the gentlemen having made a secession from the operative masons; but it is not ascertained, whether charity, or the amusements of sociality, be the chief end of their establishment.

## NUMBER VIII.

## PARISH OF BIRNIE.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—BESIDES the valleys which the rivers occupy, and may be conceived to have formed, in the chain of mountain stretched along the southern side of the low lands of Moray, one valley, in which there is no river, opens southward from the widest part of the plain, where the western side of the parish of Elgin borders with the east of Birnie, and extends quite through the mountain to the banks of the Spey. A square hill, about 6 miles along the base of every side, is hereby insulated on the east of this defile, having the plain of Rothes on the south, on the east partly Rothes, and partly Speymouth, and the champaign of Moray on its northern side. The mountain on the western side of this defile extends beyond its length to either hand, from Craig Elachy overhanging the Spey, to the lake of Mosstowie in the parish of Alves; as if that river, once occupying a channel along its base 60 feet higher than its present bed, had then pouted its whole stream through this defile, and winded over the plain, in a variety of courses during different ages, into the sea.

The parish of Birnie is placed in the entrance of this defile, extended partly on the plain, and partly on the side of the mountain, through which the water of Loddie, issuing from its own valley in the mountain, bends from its original direction parallel to the Frith, winds northward along the plain, doubled almost in its stream by the increase of three brooks, the Lenoch, Bardon, and Rashcrook, each tumbling from the hill through its own narrow vale. It appears by the Chart. Mor. that the parish has bore the name *Brenuth* since times that were ancient in the beginning of the 13th century, a Gaelic appellation, signifying, in its literal interpretation, the *north hill side*. The cultivated land is generally

a shallow

a shallow soil, sandy, stoney, and steep, lying on a bed of rock, or much-concreted gravel. The soil on several fields on the banks of the Lossie is loam incumbent on sand, or clay; and over the whole parish, plots of moorish or peat soil are found. The air, though healthful, is rather moist and cold in the hills, where the frost is earlier and sharper, and more rain and snow fall, than on the plain.

*State of Property.*]—The whole parish was part of the lands of the bishoprick. The Regent Earl of Moray obliged Bishop Hepburn, on the pretence of entertaining his outlawed nephew Bothwell, about the year 1566, to annex it, with other lands, to his private estate. The hills affording game in abundance, one croft, for the Earl's accommodation in the hunting season, was assigned to the vintner, for the yearly payment of a rose, and another to the blacksmith, for the annual delivery of a horse-shoe, if required. This last has still remained a separate property, and appertains to Thomas Stephen Esq. physician in Elgin, valued in the cefs book of the county at L.6. 16s. 6d. Scots, now rented at about L.12 Sterling. The remainder of the parish appertains to the Earl of Findlater, valued at L.727. 17s. amounting at present to L.369 Sterling of yearly rent, from which the feu-duties to the Earl of Moray are 8 bolls and L.1. 4s. 2d.; and to the Crown, as succeeding the Bishop, L.3. 10s. 10d. The whole arable land of the parish is 850 acres, of which two farms only are rented above L.50 Sterling; and there are 40 under that extent. The uncultivated ground, consisting of moor soil and peat earth, with some inter-jacent plots of green pasture, amounts to 5000 acres.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—The church was the first cathedral in the diocese. There is no account when the present fabric was built: though small, it is wholly of free-stone, neatly squared and cut, and is distinguished by its nave and choir. The fourth Bishop, Simon de Tonei, was buried in it in the year 1184. The stipend is L.41. 16s. 6d. and 38 bolls 2 firlots of victual. The glebe is nearly 9 acres. The right of patronage appertains to the Earl of Moray. The salary of the school is L.5; and as the number of souls in the parish, of whom 2 only are Seceders, amounts to 402, the emoluments of office, arising from about 20 scholars, must be inconsiderable. The provision for the poor arises from two separate bequeathments, amounting together to L.2. 10s.; and the double

of that sum is added by the contributions of the people who attend public worship in the parish church, which, after the necessary deductions to the session clerk and officer, affords a sorry pittance to 18 persons, enrolled on the parish list.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people, though poor, are industrious, cheerful, and temperate: music is their favourite diversion; many play on the bag-pipe, and several on the violin. There is a very ancient bell of copper and silver: it is called the Coronach: its figure is not round; it is square, having 2 sides wider than the other two: all of them are cut into open decorations near the top. It was made at Rome, and consecrated by the Pope. The consecrated font remains also entire, though now tumbled about without reverence in the church-yard. It is a free-stone vessel, the frustum of a cone, and appears to have been divided by a plate of iron, that the water for the baptism of males might not be mixed with that for females. The church is still held in great veneration. It is believed that prayers there for the sick, for three following Sundays, will be heard; and people, at the distance of 60 miles, have desired these prayers: and it is a jocular rebuke among the common people, upon undue complaint for any slight distress or improper behaviour, that “such must be prayed for in ‘the church of Birnie, that they may end, or mend.’” The cairn of Kilforeman, although a pile of stone 300 feet in circumference at its base, hath ceased to tell the purpose of its own accumulation; and the Bible Stone, about a mile eastward from the church, having the figure of a book distinctly engraven, no longer marks the property of the Bishop: but the cave in the rock of Gedloch still records the tradition of its having been the haunt of a band of armed robbers, who plundered and distressed the country, and reminds the passing generation of the superior advantages of the present constitution, by which every species of oppression, unauthorized by law, is most entirely quelled. The vestiges of an encampment, protected on the west by the brook Bardon, and on the north and east by a deep defile, is still to be traced.

A ridge of rock extends from east to west through the middle of the parish, and quarries of free-stone, slate, and lime-stone, have lately been discovered. There are oak, birch, hazle, and plane-trees, but not in sufficient quantity for the implements of husbandry; and large trunks of oak and fir are dug in the tracts of peat

peat earth. Broom, furze, juniper, floes, and bramble, are in plenty, and the water-lilly in the Gedloch is peculiar to the parish. It is embellished also in some degree by two water-falls, the Lin of Shoggle, and the Efs of Glenlaterach, each about 20 feet in height.

## NUMBER IX.

## PARISH OF ALVES.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE parish of Alves, skirting along the western sides of Duffus and Spynie, comprehends the whole breadth of the champaign of Moray, from the Frith to the bottom of the mountain, which in this quarter, ranging along the north side of the vale of Pluscarden, divides it from that limb of the parish of Elgin.

It is one peculiarity of this parish, that, although it has no stream naturally sufficient to turn a common corn-mill, yet the tracts of a great river remain manifestly evident, almost over all its length. It may be deemed perhaps a baseless speculation to presume, that the vallies which the rivers now occupy were not miraculously formed at the creation, for the reception of their waters, but have been gradually hollowed out by the natural action of their respective streams. It requires an exertion of the imagination to conceive the whole country without valleys, uniformly elevated to the level of the lower hills, and, instead of the great rivers, numberless small streams only, meeting into one almost by accidental congress, in the trackless waste of unconsolidated, bare, oozy mud, when God said at the first, “ Let the waters under the heaven be “ gathered together into one place; and let the dry land appear.”

Although this might be in general presumed to have been the case, its application in any one particular instance may still be difficult. It requires no common exertion of the mind, even in idea, to represent this country before the excavation of the Moray Frith, when the highest lands of Birnie were continuously conjoined with the Sutherland hills, and no sea intervened between Duncan's bay and Peterhead; but that the river Varrar, receiving the waters which

which now constitute the Ness, Nairn, and Findhorn, in its course, meeting with the Spey also from the south, and the Conan from the north, boiling in rapid eddies, around the Knock of Alves, rolled in one vast volume along the side of the hills of Enzie and Cullen, and discharged an immense cataract of extremely turbid water far eastward in the German ocean. But having conceived this idea, it will not be difficult to suppose, that the river of Findhorn, at a period much less remote, might have winded among the dales of Alves, through the lake of Spynie into the sea. Besides the evident vestiges of its tract which remain, its memory is still distinctly preserved in the name of the old castle of Erne-side, which in those days decorated its banks; it being well known, that the *Erne* is the proper appellation of the river; while the farm upon the lake of Inchstellie preserves also, by its name, the memory of its once peninsular situation: and it could never have been embosomed by any other river. The parish is nearly a square of 5 miles, presenting a surface considerably diversified by sloping, and by level plains and gently-swelling eminences. It is far from being so uniformly plain as that of Drainy or Duffus, although a great proportion of its surface is accounted level land. The soil is distinguished for its fertility, being a deep fat loam incumbent on clay, in a very few places only of a lighter quality: it produces crops of oats, valued in particular for their stow and late ripening, being found, upon the warmer sandy soils of the neighbouring parishes, to increase the luxuriance of the stem and the weight of the grain.

*State of Property.*]—George Forteath Esq. has built a spacious and splendid house upon his property of Newtown, where he has also formed an elegant garden, and made a considerable extent of plantation. The valued rent around this family seat extends to L. 165. 10s. Scots. Peter Rose Watson of Westertown Esq. prefers the warm castled accommodations of his ancestors at Coltfield, to the airy painted halls of modern fashion. The valued rent of his domains in this parish extend to L. 768. 17s. 4d. Scots. William Brodie of Milltown Esq. has his family seat under the north side of a green serrated mount; its exterior appearance, though not modern, indicating neat internal accommodation. His valued rent of Hempriggs and Windyhills amounts to L. 828. 15s. 4d.

The lands of Ardgay, Monaughty, and Afleck, appertaining to

the

the Earl of Fife, are valued at L.1575. 15s. 2d. Alves and Inchstellie, the property of the Earl of Moray, are valued at L.1336. 2s. 10d. Kirktown Alves, and Erne-side, the property of Spence Monro Esq. are valued at L.426. 9s. 8d. The land of Kilbuyack, at L.380. 7s. belongs to Miss Brodie of Lethin: making the valuation of the parish equal to L.5462. 17s. 2d. Scots. The real rent of the parish may be estimated about L.3000 sterling. The farms in general are of respectable extent, there being few under 50, and several above 100 acres. The mean rent of the land is about L.1. 5s. the acre.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The stipend is L.46. 19s. 4d. sterling, 96 bolls of bear, and 16 of meal; the allowance for the communion being included. The right of patronage appertains to the Earl of Moray. The school salary is 10 bolls of bear, and L.2. 15s. 6d. sterling; and by the act of Parliament which confers the emoluments of the office of session-clerk upon the parochial schoolmaster, he has the fee of L.1. 12s. and the customary perquisites, with the usual fees for teaching.

In the year 1715 George Duncan Esq. merchant in Inverness, bequeathed L.166. 12s. 6d. sterling, for the education of 6 boys, from the sixth to the tenth year of their age, who are to be presented by the session. The Poor, who are not numerous, are comfortably supported by the charity of the congregation, in the conclusion of their public worship, the dues for the use of the palls, and some charitable donations, among which is the sum of L.30 sterling, bequeathed by Mr. Watt, who had transferred his ministrations from this parish to Forres. The members of the national Church are 1030, about 50 Seceders, and 30 Episcopalians.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—The people are industrious, sober, and regular in their attendance on the public institutions of religion, and more than equal to their neighbours in knowledge and information. The conical hill of the Knock terminates a low ridge in the southern quarter of the parish. It is separated from the ridge that ranges through the parish of Spynie only by a narrow gap. In both are inexhaustible quarries of free-stone, equally fit for millstones and for building. In the western end of the parish, there is a large circular pile of stone: it has never been examined: no name or circumstance concerning it is known. Some Danish axes of uncommon form have been found in a tract of peat-morass in the vicinity of Erneside.

## PRESBYTERY OF FORRES.

## NUMBER TENTH.

## PARISH OF KINLOSS.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE parish of Kinloss lies on the western side of Alves, and may be regarded as occupying the whole breadth of the champaign, although a corner of Alves is protruded for a little way along the bottom of the mountain, and in this quarter the mountain side itself, almost wholly cultivated, appertains to the parish of Rafford. Being only formed into a separate parish in the year 1657, the name of the abbey, situated at the head of the bay of Findern, became readily that of the parish. It is a flat country, almost a square of 4 miles. In some places the soil is light sand; in others, rich deep clay and fertile loam; an incoherent peat earth is the surface soil of many hollow lying fields: but the whole, when properly cultivated, produces luxuriant crops of every kind of grain. Most of the springs have some mineral taste, and the water is in general bad. The air is sharp and dry: supposed to generate rheumatism and cutaneous distempers among the people, who are obliged to support its most unfavourable influences.

*State of Property.]*—The parish appertains to 4 proprietors. General Sir Hector Munro of Novar has the barony of Muirtown, valued in the county cens book at L.1859. 14s. 8d. Scots. Miss Brodie of Lethin has Kinloss and East Grange, at L.1091. 1s. 4d. General James Grant of Balnadaloch has Struthers, Newtown, and Winderlaw, at L.475. 5s. 4d.: and the remainder of the parish is the property of Lewis Dunbar Esq. of Grange, at L.297. 17s. 7d. making the whole valued rent equal to L.3723. 18s. 11d. Scots. The greater farms vary from about 100 to 130 acres, while some of the least are only from 5 to 6. The average rent by the acre is from 18s. to L.1. 4s. though there are some which let at L.1. 2s. and a small part has risen to the rate even of L.3 the acre. The whole number of the farms amount to 40.

The village of Findhorn, on the estate of Muirtown, at the influx of the river Findern, properly the Erne, into the Frith, may be considered as the port of the town of Forres, and partly of Elgin also.

Four vessels, from 90 to 130 tons burthen, are employed in the  
Lord

London trade to this port, and to those of Cromarty and Inverness conjoined, one after another generally arriving between every third and fifth week, and completing 5 or 6 voyages in the year. An inconsiderable quantity of dyed threads, manufactured in the village; a proportion of the grain of the country; and the salmon of the rivers of Nairn and Findern, with a small quantity from the upper fisheries of the Spey, comprise the goods sent to London. The salmon is sent in vessels appropriated for that article, put on board in the offing, and reach market commonly between the 5th and 9th day. From 2500 to 4000 kits, bringing from 16s. to L.1. 10s. the kit in London, comprehend the yearly quantity.

The articles brought back from London are sugar, tea, hops, porter, and cheese—silk, woollen, and cotton, cloths—hats, ribbons, and buttons, hardware, household furniture, tanned leather, and grass seeds.

Three vessels, from 70 to 90 tons burthen, are employed in the trade from Leith, and the other ports in the Frith of Forth, to the same places, completing their voyages nearly in the same times. The only article carried out is grain, generally about 3000 bolls in the year, in cargoes of 300 or 400 bolls: in some years, 7000 or 8000 have been shipped: but the failure of the crop 1781, from an excessive drought, and a shake by a storm of wind, required an importation of 2000 bolls; while the crop of 1782 required a supply of no less than 8000 bolls from foreign ports.

The goods brought from Leith yearly consist of a considerable quantity of tanned leather, soap, tallow, and grass seeds, foreign bar iron, and manufactured iron from Carron, farm utensils and furniture, bottles, window and crystal glass, English and Scots stoneware, English hardware, and the manufactures of the looms of England, Glasgow, and Paisley. Wines, imported by the merchants of Forres and Inverness from the places of their growth to Leith, make a part of the freights of these vessels, there being now seldom any wine imported directly here. Small quantities of spruce or black beer made at Dantzick are also forwarded from Leith. The ships employed in freighting the corn bring in yearly about 100 tons of Scots coal, and about 6 times as much from Sunderland, avoiding Newcastle on account of the duty paid to the Duke of Richmond on coals shipped there. With the coal, there is occasionally a small quantity of lime brought for manure.

and about 130 tons of salt from the different saltworks of the Frith. Many passengers sail in these vessels both to and from London and Leith.

Two vessels are generally employed in bringing flax, tow, foreign bar iron, hard and soft soap, ropes and dressed hemp from Aberdeen. The flax is dressed, and only sent down by the manufacturers of that city to be spun, about Elgin, Forres, and Nairn, which it is supposed will amount to more than L.2000 sterling yearly, for spinning the yarn returned from this port. These vessels generally complete their voyage in the course of every six weeks, and occasionally carry back small quantities of flour and a few other articles.

Small quantities of yarn, manufactured from home-grown flax, are sent also by Leith for the Glasgow looms; and small quantities of butter by private orders for particular families. The pier is commodious, but rather too limited: yet the harbour is spacious and safe: there was always sufficient depth of water on the bar, and scarcely any vessel was ever damaged in getting over it. Of late, the channel has been altered even for the better, and vessels of almost 300 tons can easily get to the pier at stream tides. The act of Parliament for building it was obtained by Sir Hector Munro in 1778. The duties of anchorage which it allows are, for every vessel under 6 tons, 3d.—between 6 and 15 tons, 6d.—from 15 to 30 tons, 1s.—from 30 to 50 tons, 2s.—from 50 to 75 tons, 3s.—from 75 to 100 tons, 4s.—from 100 to 150 tons, 5s.—from 150 to 200 tons, 6s.—from 200 to 300, 7s.—and for 300 tons, and all above that, 8s. The duties on goods shipped and landed vary with the different commodities: For the boll of grain, salt, barrel of English coal, 100 whole-barrel, or 150 half-barrel hoops,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.—for each barrel of goods imported in barrels, for each gross of quart bottles, and for each parcel, 1d.—for the 100 bolls of lime, 1s. 6d.—for the 1000 slates or tiles, 6d.—for each 40 feet of timber in logs, 4d.—and for all coarse goods not particularly rated, in the proportion of L.2 for each L.100 of their value.

The fees exacted by the custom-house are equal to three times these in the port of Leith on foreign cargoes. On goods carried coast-ways, 2s. is demanded from every merchant for the value of from L.20 to L.50 sterling—1s. 6d. to the comptroller and collector, and 6d. to the port officer—deemed so exorbitant, that the payment

ment has of late been refused, and, by steady unanimity among the merchants, redress will no doubt be obtained.

About 30 years ago, there were 7 or 8 fishing boats belonging to Findhorn, constantly employed. There are at present but 4: a fifth is occasionally rigged out in winter. There are some fine beds of muscles in this harbour: 100 boats, from 3 to 7 tons, have been in some years freighted for bait to the fish-towns southward on the Frith, as far as Fraserburgh, besides the home consumpt, both for the fishers and the market. Oysters also, about 20 years ago, were planted by Sir Hector Monro; but the scalp having never been dragged, their fate is wholly unknown.

Of late some cargoes of fir timber and deals have been shipped for the eastern quarter of the Frith; and as the plantations in the country advance, this branch of traffick will probably be enlarged.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—While the abbey of Kinloss subsisted, this parish appertained to that of Alves and Rafford. In the year 1652 William Campbell, minister of Alves, commissioner from the presbytery of Elgin to the brethren of Forres, represented, that “ the chapter-house of the abbey of Kinloss hath been, since the Reformation, a place for preaching the word, celebrating the sacraments and marriage; and by a condescendence between Alexander Brodie of Lethin, and the English garrison at Inverness, the fabric of the abbey is taken down for building their citadel, save the place of worship; and those who have the charge for to transport the stone, have it in command to take that also down: therefore the brethren at Elgin earnestly desire, that the presbytery lay to heart what the sequel will be, seeing, by the unanimous consent of the whole heritors of the adjacent lands, and of all the members of the presbyteries of Elgin and Forres, it is agreed, that there shall be a church and particular parish erected for Kinloss, and the people thereabout, who are now almost without the means of the gospel.”

On the consequent application of the presbytery, Mr. Brodie declared, “ it was against his will that these stones were taken away.” An agreement was however made, that Sir John MacKenzie of Tarbet, the proprietor of Muirtown, should give up his claim on George’s Yard, a part of the precinct of the abbey; and that the presbytery, who claimed the whole precinct, should renounce all pretence to any part thereof, as lawfully redeemed by Lethin,

Lethin, who, having acquired the abbey lands from Lord Kinlofs, engaged on his part to give a sufficient glebe, and station for a manse, off his lands of Kinlofs, and also to build the manse and church by the money he had received for the stone of the abbey. At a subsequent meeting of the presbytery, the whole proprietors agreed on their particular proportions of a stipend of L.22. 5s. and 3 chalders of bear, and the expence of the communion, from the tithes of their respective lands within the new parish. The proprietors also of the lands remaining in the parish of Alves, agreed to make up the proportion of L.5 sterlinc, and 10 bolls, formerly paid to the minister of Alves, from the lands taken off that parish; of which Sir Robert Innes, younger of Innes, who in the interval had acquired the barony of Muirtown, "out of his free donation and gift, en-  
 "dows L.2. 10s. by the year, for the payment whereof he doth  
 "oblige himself and his heirs, to employ L.41. 13s. 4d. in the  
 "hands of responsal debtors, by the advice of the presbytery of  
 "Elgin; and the minister of Alves; and to pay L.2. 10s. yearly,  
 "so long as it remains in his own or foresaid's hands." The other L.2. 10s. and the 10 bolls, were apportioned on the lands within the parish of Alves. The minister of Rafford was compensated by the annexation of the parish of Altyr, which had been in-  
 commodiously united to Dollas, the stipend of which was supplied, by conjoining the lands of Killes from the parish of Elgin.

It was not however till the year 1659, that the settlement of James Urquhart, the first minister of Kinlofs, took place, who in a few months thereafter attended a meeting of the Scots parliament at Edinburgh, with Sir Robert Innes, and Mr. Fullerton, the minister of Rafford, and obtained the national ratification of this whole procedure by the act March 20, 1661, "which ratifies and  
 "confirms the act and ordinance of the presbyteries of Elgin and  
 "Forres, with consent of all concerned, of date the 6th of May  
 "1657;" but appointing the stipend of Kinlofs to be L.20 sterlinc, and 4 chalders of bear, including the expence of the communion. Upon the death of the Usurper in the succeeding year, and the restoration of Charles II. the Presbyterian Church of Scotland was completely overturned and abrogated, and the Prelatic constitution arbitrarily and violently re-imposed. But that there hath been an ecclesiastical establishment in every civilized state, Gentile, Jew, or Christian, the historical records of all ages show; and it may be

from

from the scriptures inferred, that this is by the Deity required of all who have been favoured by the light of revelation. Although it may not be obvious, that the Presbyterian establishment is particularly by the scriptures enjoined, yet the experience of more than 100 years hath fully concurred to shew, that it is by much the best for a people who in general are far from opulent. Instruction in the duties of morality and religion is not lost amidst the pomp and splendor of external worship: and while the clergy are not raised above the requisite intercourse with the lowest of the people by power and dignity, and temporal wealth, their learning, manners, and rank in society associating them with the superior orders of the state, forms the link by which the highest are connected with the lowest, affording thereby the mutual communication of those advantages for which each of those classes is dependent on the other. Accordingly there is no state where the common people are of more decent manners, better informed, or more attentive to the duties of morality, and the ordinances of religion.

These advantages, however, are the purchase of much of the blood, and of almost the whole of the treasure, of our ancestors, and were only secured by many hard contentions with most crafty and desperate efforts of unconstitutional power, continued by the most unrelenting persecution of every rank, and of every sex for almost half a century. At the conclusion of such a distressful season, the state ecclesiastical could not at once assume that comely order to which it has now attained; and for the first 12 years of the present Presbyterian establishment, the number was so few of faithful ministers, that, except parochial sessions, the *Presbytery of Moray* was the only ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the province; in a meeting of which at Forres in June 1702, they were then first able to make up 3 Presbyteries, one comprehending those of Inverness, Nairn, and Forres, another Elgin, Aberlaur, and Abernethie, and that of Strathbogie nearly as it has since remained, and in consequence of this the Synod for the first time met in the month of October thereafter.

In 1708 the *Presbytery of Forres*, which is now to be considered, was first established, which until the year 1773 comprehended also the parishes of Aulden, Nairn, and Ardclach.

The stipend of Kinloss, by decree 1789, is L.46. 8s. 3d.—56 bolls of bear, and 40 bolls of oatmeal. The right of patronage is shared

shared between the Earl of Moray and Miss Brodie of Lethin. The salary of the school is L.2. 16s. 4d. and 7 bolts and 3 pecks of bear, and L.2 as the fee of the session-clerk, with the customary dues of from 40 to 60 scholars. The number of poor on the parish roll in the year 1776 was 34; the supply raised for their provision was L.6. 11s. 6d. In the year 1786 they had increased to 57, and the fund has also risen to L.17. 10s. 2d. In 1796 the number had fallen down nearly to the first statement, being only 36, and the fund only decreased to L.12. 9s. It is wholly formed by the contributions of the people at their meetings for social worship in the church, the hire they pay for the pall, and such fines as the session can exact for immoralities. The members of the national Church amount to 1023: there are about 9 Seceders of the Antiburgher sect, and 2 of the Nonjuror Episcopalian profession.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—A slip, or ridge of ground along the shore on the western side of the river Erne, appertains to this parish and to the estate of Muirtown. About 100 years ago, the river, similar to what has been mentioned of the ancient termination of the Spey, and of the present influx of the Liffy, flowed westward nearly 6 miles, converging with the shore. When the river gained its present direct course, this ground by the water stagnate in its former bed became an island, for many years affording secure pasturage for sheep and cattle; but by the drifting of the sand, this ancient channel is now filled up, so as to be an island only during high water, divested of much of its accommodation, and the pasturage greatly injured by the overspreading sand.

Prior to the year 1701, the town of Findhorn, regularly built, stood upon a pleasant plain, a mile north-west from its present situation, and now the bottom of the sea. The irruption, thought completed in one night, and by one tide, had long been apprehended, and the inhabitants had gradually withdrawn. It is probable, that the drifting sand accumulated by the united power of wind and tide, dammed back the river, forcing open its present course, and overwhelming the village. At that time a pretty level moor stretched in a right line along the shore from Findhorn to Burgh-head, for the distance only of 5 miles. The encroachment of the sea in a semi-circular bay has made the distance now by land a little more than 10. The inhabitants of Findhorn were in a great measure supplied with fuel from this moor, the cutting up of which

might

might have been the cause of the encroachment. On this moor, near the shore, stood a conical mount, evidently artificial, about 40 fathoms high: it was called the *Douffhillook*, and afforded a view of the Frith and the whole country around. An old man, still alive, has gathered berries among the heath around its base. Many roots and trunks of oak and fir trees were then found in the moor, and a few are still dug in the moss of Hatton, confirming the truth of the tradition, that a forest once occupied what is now the bottom of the sea, and the downs between Findhorn and Duffus. The sand-banks oppose a feeble barrier to the power of every storm from the north, by which they are themselves forced farther on the shore, and banks of peat earth are thereby discovered 6 or 8 feet below the sand. Within the flood-mark of the bay of Findhorn, where the estate of Muirtown borders with West Grange, in the year 1787, pretty extensive beds of peat earth were discovered, deemed such a treasure at the first as to excite a law suit, as on the records of the Sheriff court, between the landlord and his tenants, even for the duration of the current leases; but after the commencement of the litigation, it was found this fuel had such an offensive smell, and corrosive power on kitchen utensils of copper and iron, as to be absolutely improper for any domestic purpose. This peat was found at 2 or 3 feet under the sand, not in a continuous bed, but in detached banks, as if covered by sand when formerly used, in a period beyond the remembrance of the passing generation.

Within the bay, near the course of the river, is the *yaar*, probably the *yard* fishery, principally of salmon. It is an enclosure, formed of stakes wattled with twigs or brush-wood. At high water, the fish swim over the fence; but, heedless of the gradual reflux of the tide, their retreat cut off, they are left gasping on the sand. This fishery is supposed to have been the device of the brethren of the abbey. On its dissolution, the *yaar* was acquired by the community of Forres, and was then placed a mile nearer to the town, and still pays 4s. 4d. of the stipend of that parish. The vestiges of 3 different *yaars* may be still traced on the sands. From 3 to 12 barrel of salmon used formerly to be the produce; and it was let at the rent of L.6 in the year; but the proprietor's estate afforded wood for its repair, of which at present no vestige remains. The *yaar* therefore is not kept in very good repair, and it is supposed

posed to be injudiciously placed. It has accordingly failed much in its returns, which probably will not be recovered, till the rising plantations afford materials at hand for its necessities. On some occasions, herrings, but rarely, have been found inclosed.

How far the industry and device of man, in conjunction with the ravage of the fish upon each other, and on their respective roes, may tend to diminish their numbers on the whole, seems as yet to be more apprehended than ascertained. A small premium for the destruction of the more voracious kinds upon the coasts of Britain might be perhaps not improperly conjoined with the prohibitory statutes respecting black fish.

#### NUMBER XI.

##### PARISH OF FORRES.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—The parish of Forres, southward of Kinloss, stretches across the plain, rather from the bay of Findern than from the sea, till it meet the parish of Rafford on the south, both occupying the breadth of the low land from that bay to the bottom of the mountain. The parish is nearly in the form of a triangle: its length from east to west about 3 miles, and its breadth from north to south nearly 6. The royal burgh giving its name to the parish is placed on a rising ground, nearly in its middle. The name denoting *upon or near to water*, and the appearance of the ground, give reason to suppose, that the river Findern might have originally held its course nearer to the town, and a considerable stream from the southern mountain runs close by the houses on its northern side. The south and south-east parts of the parish are hilly, covered with short heath and furze; but by much the greater part is one continued rich well cultivated field. The climate is inferior to no part of Scotland: the air is serene, healthful, and dry. The town commands an extensive prospect of a fertile country, embellished by the seats of many neighbouring proprietors.

*State of Property.]*—The parish is shared among nine proprietors, besides the lands belonging to the town, and some smaller proprietors

ters holding of the burgh. The Earl of Moray has Knockowney, Flewis, and Belnaferry, amounting in the cens book to L.290. 18s. 10d. The estate of Sanchar and Burdfyards, appertaining to George Grant Esq. amounts to L.1030. 7s. 2d. The lands of Grieshop, belonging to John Gordon of Edintore Esq. are L.432. 15s. 4d. The estate of Belnageith, belonging to Alexander Leslie Esq. is L.225. 3s. 4d. Alexander Penrose Cuming of Altyr and Gordonstown has Mundole and Cotehall, L.126. 9s. 6d. Alexander Urquhart Esq. has Tannachy, L.261. 12s. 9d. Joseph Dunbar of Grange Esq. has a valuation of L.213. 8s. 8d.—and John Brander of Pitgaveny Esq. has Waterford, valued at L.117. 13s. 5d. in which, however, the valuation also of Cotehall seems to be included. The whole valued rent of the parish amounts to L.2954. 6s. 6d. Scots.

The farms are not of very great extent, few or none exceeding 60 or 80 acres. In the neighbourhood of the town, lands let from L.2. 10s. to L.3 sterling the acre. These are principally farmed by horse-hirers, and are chiefly in grass; and by the high wages they get for the hire of their horses, are enabled to pay this enormous price for land. In the country part of the parish, the average rent will not exceed L.1. 10s. the acre.

Forres is a handsome well built town: the high street from east to west about one mile in length: near the middle is the town-house and jail, a pretty high square tower, and a kind of timber spire. It is not known when it was erected into a royal burgh: the charter granted by James IV. dated June 23, 1496, narrates, "that the ancient charters have been destroyed in the time of war, "or by the violence of fire, and grants of new in free burgage "with the lands formerly belonging to the community, particular- "ly the lands called Griveship, Baillie-lands, Meikle Bog, with "the King's Meadow, Lobranstown, with Creaties and Ramflat, "and common pasturage in the forest of Drumondside and Tul- "loch; with power annually to elect a Provost, Baillies, and other "magistrates and officers necessary, and to constitute the Provost "and Baillies Sheriffs within the burgh and its liberties, and dis- "charge the Sheriff of the shire of Elgin and Forres, to exercise "his office within the said burgh or its liberties; with power to "have a crofs, a weekly market, and an annual fair to continue for

“ 8 days, with all and sundry other privileges and immunitiess of a  
“ free burgh, &c.”

The number of the Council is 17, Provost, Baillies, Dean of Guild, and Treasurer, included. The old Council chuses the new, and the new Council chuses the Magistrates, and puts them off, or continues them, as they see cause. The burgesses, inhabitants, or proprietors in the country, may be chosen into the Council, timely notice being given by the drum and other customary advertisements. The revenue is nearly L.100 sterling a year; and with the towns of Nairn, Inverness, and Fortrose in the county of Ross, has a representative in the House of Commons.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The yearly value of the living is 98 bulls of bear, 20 of meal, and L.40. 16s. 8d. sterling, with a glebe of 4 acres, and a manse and offices in town. The Earl of Moray is patron. The burying ground is on the north side of the street, near the west end, where the church also stands; a heavy building, without a steeple: it was built in 1775, and is 72 by 36 feet within walls, and may contain 1800 people. The members of the established church are about 2987, from which there is only to be deducted a few Seceders, who are not increasing.

The provision for the poor arises chiefly from the charity of those who attend the church. Mr. Alexander Watt, the last minister, left a donation to the poor of about L.200 sterling. The whole, with the sum of L.15, being the interest of money left under the direction of the town council, and divided among the poor within the town, amounts to about L.55 sterling a year, and is distributed among 125 persons, many of whom are heads of families.

There is a grammar school in the town, where Latin, Greek, French, and the various branches of the mathematics, are at present taught with great success; and a young gentleman may have board and education for L.20 a year. To this the school for reading English, writing, and arithmetic, has been of late conjoined, under the care of the same master, assisted by an usher. The conjoined salary is equal to L.35 sterling yearly, and the fees of generally more than 100 scholars, besides those girls who attend at a stated separate hour in the day.

There is likewise a boarding school for young ladies, where the various branches of needle work, music, and other parts of female education,

education, are taught. The mistress has a salary from the town of £.16 a year; and a young lady may have every requisite accommodation for £.15 a year. Music is taught for 2 guineas a year, gum-flowers for 4 guineas, tambour for £.1, and plain work for 10s. Particular attention is paid to the morals, and to impress the minds of the young people of both sexes with proper sentiments of honour and discretion: and from the abilities of the present teachers, and the attention paid by the Magistrates, and the healthy situation of the town, there is not any-where, perhaps, a more eligible place for the education of youth. Besides these established schools, there are private teachers both for girls and boys, to whom some small donations are also made by the Magistrates for their encouragement: in one, the piano forte, and some of the other branches of female accomplishment, are taught for half the dues of the public establishment.

[*Miscellaneous Information.*]—There are in Forres 60 merchants and shop-keepers. The only manufactures carried on are for the supply of the town and its vicinity, except the spinning of linen-yarn, which has for 20 years back brought a considerable supply of money into the country. The merchants are in the use of buying the yarn, and sending it to Glasgow, where there is a ready sale, unless the market be over-stocked with Irish yarn, which only on account of its cheapness is at certain times preferred. But since the year 1784, this trade has been gradually declining, owing to the increase of the number of machines for spinning cotton; and many of those formerly employed in spinning yarn for sale, now spin Dutch flax for the manufacturing companies of Aberdeen and Inverness. In the year 1784, one merchant sent 23,295 spindles to Glasgow, collected in Forres and in its vicinity; the other dealers in this article sent about 47,000, which, at the rate of 2s. for spinning, produced £.7029 sterling.

The river Findern and the brook at Forres are the only streams in the parish. The fish found in the river and bay of Findern are salmon, trout, eels, and flounders; haddocks are got in the Frith, and sold in the town and country around. The quantity of salmon exported from Forres, upon the average of the ten years from 1773 to 1783, was 300 barrels yearly, besides the home consumpt, not very considerable: it is sold at 4d. the lb.

The river Findern is navigable for boats no farther than the tide flows.

flows. The distance from the town to the harbour does not exceed 3 miles, and the tide flows more than half that distance, and the low ground at the bottom of the eminence on which the town stands does not exceed the level of half tide by 14 feet, and that depth of canal would carry vessels to the town, and the canal would be kept clear by the brook; there is hardly any place, therefore, where there is more encouragement to make a canal, did the commerce of the town require it. The flux of the tide covers a triangular piece of ground, the bay of Findern, wholly dry at low water, except the channel of the river, and a little space at the inlet; it contains about one thousand acres of a stiff clay soil, distinguished by the epithet of carse ground, a part however being a fine compact sand, with light particles of earth deposited by the floods. All this might, at an expence inconsiderable compared with its value, be easily recovered from the sea; a bar of sand stretching across the mouth of the river would prevent the violence of any surge upon the embankment which would be required. There is one quarry of limestone upon Mr. Cuming's estate; but being mixed with other matters, it has never been used in any considerable quantities.

#### NUMBER XII.

##### PARISH OF RAFFORD.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE body of this parish lies southward of Forres, in an extension of the plain into the mountain, along the western end of the hill which separates the vale of Pluscarden from the dales of Alves, to which upon the northern side of this hill a wing of this parish is stretched. From the extremity of this wing at the east to the border of Edinkillie at the west, the parish measures 8 miles; but its mean length in this direction, equal to its mean breadth, may be estimated only at the half of that extent. The name in Gaelic may be RATH-ARD, signifying *the hovel of the height, or shealing*, as it is denominated in the Highlands of Scotland, a sorry temporary turf cabin, for the accommodation of mountain pasture, having at the first probably occupied the station of the old tower of Blervie.

The face of the country is much diversified: a considerable reach

of

of the bottom of the valley lies so level, as easily to send a part of the water of a small lake southward towards Dollas, where it joins the Lochty, turning eastward through Pluscarden, and northward by the church to Forres and the bay of Findern. A considerable part of the arable field lies on the plains at the bottom, and a great part on the sloping sides of the hills. In some places, the soil is a deep fertile clay; in others, a light burning sand: a black shallow soil, incumbent on rock, occupies some part; and a bed of moorish soil, in many places so thin as scarcely to cover the flat sloping rock, appears in other parts; and a great proportion consists of a rough brown gravel, on a bottom of small pebble, so firmly cemented by some mineral, probably iron ore, as to be impenetrable by the utmost power of the plough. The air is rather dry than moist, and rather healthful than otherwise.

*State of Property.]*—There are three family seats in the parish. Burgie Castle, the property of Lewis Dunbar Esq. of Grange, has been above described. His valued rent in this parish amounts to L.877. 13s. 8d. Scots. The Hon. Major Lewis Duff of Blervie, quitting the ancient castled residence of the Dunbars on the summit of the hill, has built a handsome modern seat, snugly sheltered near its western bottom, embellished with plantations, gardens, and ornamented grounds: the valued rent amounts to L.517. 17s. 4d. Scots. Altyr, the family seat of Colonel Alexander Penrose Cuming Gordon, is a plain old building, with neat modern wings. Widely-extended plantations, a spacious garden, and a long reach of fruit wall, exhibit at this place utility in alliance with embellishment: the valued rent is L.676. 13s. Scots. While these gentlemen thus contribute to the improvement of the country at their own residences, the Earl of Moray has done more than co-operated with them, in the superior neatness of the dwellings of his tenants of Clunie and Tarras, and in the improved appearance of their fields. His Lordship's valued rent of these lands amounts to L.541. 14s. 10d.—extending the valuation of the parish to L.2613. 18s. 10d. Scots: the present real rent is estimated at L.1800 sterling. There are several of the farms in the low grounds pretty extensive; but they are of small extent in the hilly parts of the parish. Making a reasonable allowance for the value of the improved inclosures in the occupation of the proprietors, the mean rent is equal to L.1. 6s. sterling the acre.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—In popish and prelatic times, Rafford was the seat of the sub-chanter of the diocese. Of the state of the parish of Altyr before the Reformation, there is nothing certainly known: it never had a pastor for itself, under any of the protestant dispensations. Though a part of the parish of Dollas, it had an independent parochial jurisdiction, the separate celebration of the sacraments, and public worship every third Sunday. In a parochial visitation of the clergy during the fervor of the Covenant, every thing was found well ordered, save that the sacrament had not been celebrated for the space of 3 years, which Mr. Strachan the minister excused, by the ignorance of the people, on account of the distance of his residence, but promised to do all he could to prepare them for it. Altyr is within two miles of Rafford, and nearly 14 from Dollas, a desert mountain, often impassable, intervening for half that distance; yet the annexation was obstinately opposed by its proprietor, and its accomplishment required the utmost exertion of the clergy, great as their influence at that period was. The record bears, “it was for some time deferred, because “the *laird* could not be found at home.” When his presence was at last won, “he alleged he had weighty reasons against the “annexation, and craved a delay to state them in writing.” They were not entered on the record: “but after many addresses made, “and debating with him for many days, and Lord Brodie, having “reasoned with him apart, reported, that having offered all arguments, perceived he had a mind to receive no satisfaction; the “presbytery laid the business to heart, and being much weighted “therewith, did desire the Laird of Altyr to tell his judgment; “who, with all the elders and people, do acknowledge, with heaviness of mind, that there is a necessity of accommodation, and “wish that a way may be found for remedy: the presbytery being “much affected with the sad condition of Dollas and Altyr, agree “that Altyr should be declared to be joined for accommodation “to Rafford, and to crave the approbation of the synod. And “upon the 19th of August 1659, Mr. James Strachan of Dollas and “Altyr was ordained to intimate publickly to the people of Altyr, “upon the Lord’s day come 8 days, that they were now disjoined “from Dollas, and annexed to the parish of Rafford, and ordained “to repair to the said parish church in all time coming; and Mr. “Fullerton, minister thereof, to take up their names, and have a care

"care of them as of the rest of his parishioners." Although this must have been agreeable to the people, both from their own ideas concerning religious obligation, and from the sanction of ecclesiastical decrees, at that time of no light estimation, yet so greatly did the awe of petty despotism preponderate, when the lives and properties of the inhabitants were under the arbitrary award of each capricious baronial proprietor, that in the parochial visitation of the succeeding year, "complaint is made by the minister, that Altyr and his people totally absented themselves from Rafford church; and the presbytery, after application and addresses made to Altyr, to move him fairly to his duty, ordain the minister to summon before them the Laird of Altyr and the other inhabitants of the late parish there." It has been already mentioned, that the authority of the parliament was in the following year conjoined with the sanction of the church, by the act which ratifies the erection of the parish of Kingloss.

The church at present is a mean fabric, but in a central situation. The stipend is £.55. 11s. 1d. sterling, and 6 chalders of barley, the communion allowance included. The right of patronage appertains to Miss Brodie of Lethin. The salary of the school, exclusive of the fees of teaching, and the perquisites of the session clerk, is 16 bolls of bear. The poor on the parish roll amount to 40: the tenants who attend the parochial church contribute for their support about £.9 sterling in the year, to which there is only to add the interest of £.50. The members of the national church are 1964, and the dissenters are 7 Seceders.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people, on the whole, are a sensible, decent, and religious society. The great occupation of the female part is spinning flax raised on the farms, and manufactured into sheeting, diaper, and sackcloth; and many of the poorer class pin the lint of the merchants, at 10d. and 1s. the spindle. This gives employment to 16 or 17 looms in the parish. Several of the farmers also work up timber, and make their own ploughs, carts, and other implements. There is a fine quarry of freestone on the estate of Burgie, to which the access is easy, and the stone dittrable and not difficult in working. There is also a slate quarry on the estate of Clunie, let out by the tenant of that farm to quarriers, at a rate of 3s. 4d. the 1000 untrimmed slate. The noted obelisk, called *Sueno's Stone*, on the estate of Tarras, has been already de-

cribed: it cannot be doubted, that it has been erected in memory of some important event which happened before the introduction of letters into Scotland; it is at once a specimen of hieroglyphic writing, and a monument of the state of the arts in this kingdom in an age very remote: the sculpture, if it had remained complete, could not even yet be deemed inelegant; and it must have required no small degree of skill to have quarried, transported, and erected a column of such height. Two circumstances are somewhat surprising: that curiosity has never thought of exploring whether any thing lies hid about its base; and, that regard for such a singularly splendid monument has neither induced its noble owner, or the gentlemen of the county, to preserve the figures it still exhibits from the effacing influence of the weather, by such a simple expedient as a coating or two of paint; seeing the experice of a small ornamental building over it might be deemed too great a sacrifice to an object in which our ancestors only were interested.



## NUMBER XIII.

## PARISH OF DOLLAS.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—A part of the parish of Dollas, the estate of Craigmill, lies in the southern end of the valley which has been considered as forming the body of the parish of Rafford. Through this estate the stream of Lachty hastens eastward, through a narrow cut in the rocky hill, to loiter in the vale of Pluscarden. This cut appears as if made merely for the passage of the Lochty, where it would be easy to turn it northward by the church of Rafford, if that was not originally its natural course. The greater part of the parish of Dollas lies on the south side of the hill of Melundy, which is stretched between the courses of the Lochty and the Lossy. When the Lossy occupied a channel about 3 feet higher than the bottom of its present bed, a great proportion of the plain on the south side of the hill of Melundy must have been a lake; and except a pool, covering only a few acres, the whole of this plain still remains a deep extensive bed of pure peat earth: from this circumstance its Gaelic name, DALE UISK, *the water valley,*

has

has probably been suggested. Along the course of the Lossy, from Birnie, at the east, to its sources in the mountain, which is interposed between Spey and Findern, the parish measures 12 miles; its breadth, including Craigmill, southward to the borders of the parish of Knocando, is 9 miles: but its mean breadth, which is pretty equally divided by the river, taken from the southern side of the hill of Melundy, measures only about 6 miles. Several brooks rushing down from the hills on both sides intersect the parish across, nearly at right angles to the river.

Except such sandy fields as lie upon its banks, the soil may be accounted moorish, and in general not very fertile; the crops for the most part are insufficient for the support of the people and of the cattle. The air is cold and often moist, retarding the seed season till towards the middle of April, and the harvest till near the end of November.

*State of Property.*]—The barony of Dollas is a part of the estate of Gordonstown, and by succession is become the property of Col. Alexander Penrose Cuming Gordon of Altyr. The family of Gordonstown had projected a magnificent seat at Rhininver, under the southern side of the hill of Melundy, in the form of a crescent, having the house in the diameter, and the offices in the periphery. The offices were only completed, in which a commodious temporary accommodation is neatly fitted up; the hill of Melundy behind, on which a semi-circular garden, answering to the form of the building, was intended, is planted with an extensive forest of Scots fir; the heathy peat marsh spreads a large dun plain before, having the river trailing around its farther verge. The valued rent amounts to L. 818. 15s. 6d. Scots. The real rent was considerably increased about 30 years ago, by the improvements in the hilly parts of the estate. The landlord gave timber for the buildings, which were of sod; the second year, the first rent was only a hen; but it increased by 1s. for every succeeding crop of the lease, which terminated in the nineteenth year, when the land was let of new; at the value to which it had been then brought.

The estate of Killess, appertaining to the Earl of Fife, lies also on both sides the river below the barony of Dollas, and borders with His Lordship's land of Pluscarden. There is a considerable extent of natural oak wood on the north bank of the river: it has been managed only as copse wood, and is at present young. The valued

rent of this estate is £.271. 11s. 4d. Scots. A considerable extent of land has also been recently added by improvements in the hills. The only other proprietor of the parish is Robert Grant of Elchies Esq. who has the lands of Craigmill, valued at £.90s. 19s. making the valued rent of the whole parish equal to £.1392. 3s. 4d. Scots. The farms are but of small extent. The rent of the arable ground stretches from 1s. to 15s. the acre: from the least improved moor to the highest cultivated field, the mean rent will be about 11s. the acre, exclusive of the natural pasturage.

*State Ecclesiastical.* — The parish was made up in its present form in the year 1657, by detaching Altyr and conjoining Killes. It is not now particularly known in what manner the consequent dilapidation of the stipend was compensated to the ministers of Elgin; but it must be from the record inferred, that these ancient worthies were neither raised above the vain concerns of this transitory life, in any superior measure to that of their modern successors, nor that, like to the primitive Christians, they were at all disposed to have their worldly goods in common. In October 1672, Alexander Cuming, minister of Dollas, complains to the presbytery, "that notwithstanding of the legal annexation of Killes, both as to benefice and office, Mr. James Horne, minister of Elgin, had that year, without warrant from bishop or synod; but at his own hand, intermeddled with and carried off a considerable part of the stipend." This complaint was referred to a meeting of the synod, in seven days after, who appointed a committee to settle the business.

A few years ago, the church was a very ancient fabric, thatched with heath, and without windows, save a or 3 narrow slits which yawned to a very disproportioned wideness within; and the effigy of the patron, St. Michael, stood weatherbeaten in a niche near the top of the eastern gable without. The church and manse however are at present commodious buildings, though both in some danger of being swept away by the river. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is £.58. 6s. 4d. sterling, of which about £.11. sterling has been drawn from the vicarage tithes of the parish of Aulden, by an arrangement which seems to have been continued from the establishment of the Church of Rome. The glebe, like the parish, is divided by the Lossy: it contains about 14 acres, and is accommodated with a little natural wood on the banks of the river, affording some convenience, but not an object of any profit.

prof. The parochial school is only a recent establishment. The salary is £.5, and the fee of the session clerk only £.1. The church being in a central situation is sufficiently commodious for the celebration of the public ordinances of religion. The parochial school however can accommodate but a small proportion of a parish of such length, intersected by so many streams, often impassable in every season. The Society for propagating Christian Knowledge have therefore established a school, with an appointment of £.10 in the year, in the populous district of Killes; and which has hitherto served the purpose of its settlement in a very satisfactory manner. The poor on the parish list are not a numerous body: there is no other fund for their provision but the charity of their own neighbours, all of whom are far from opulent. The whole people appertain to the national Church, amounting to the number of 888 souls.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—In the church-yard, a neatly cut stone column, 12 feet high, terminated by a well formed flower-de-luce for its capital, still remains the market cross; at which the effects of bankrupt tenants are occasionally exposed to auction. The peats for fuel are of an excellent quality, and the quantity in this remote quarter deemed inexhaustible. As the soil does not afford corn sufficient for the support of the people, the deficiency, the rent, and other necessities, are supplied by the sale of sheep and black cattle which can be spared; and in a great measure by the weekly sale of peats in the markets of Forres and Elgin; sold from 8d. to 1s. 2d. a small cartfull, drawn by a very little lean horse. The wool also which is produced in the parish is spun in the families of the tenants; and several weavers are constantly employed in making it into coarse cloth called *plaider*, which is sold from 9d. to 1s. the yard.



## NUMBER XIV.

## PARISH OF EDINKIEIE.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—This parish extends westward 12 miles from the borders of Dolas and Rafford, and as far southerly from the confines of Forres. It lies partly along the bottom, and upon the side of the mountain, which has been described as ranging

ing along the champaign of Moray ; from which circumstance, its Scots name is *Brea-Moray*, that is, *the acclivity of Moray*. Its ancient Gaelic appellation, *AODINCOILIE*, signifies the *face of the wood* ; and a charter from King David Bruce, another towards the end of the 15th century, and the great quantities of oak, fir, and other kinds of timber, still dug from the tracks of peat soil, concur to shew, that the whole face of the country was covered with wood. It then contained two royal forests : *Drummynede*, that is, *the venison hill*, now destitute of wood, and *Darnway*, still covering almost 1000 acres. The river *Findern* divides the parish for some miles, and two of its most considerable branches have the whole of their courses within its extent : the *Duvie*, that is, *the black water*, descending from the hills which border upon *Cromdale*, meets a little below the church with the *Durbach*, discharged from the lake of *Lochnadorb*, on the western boundary of the parish. These rivers are supposed by their rapidity to purify the air, which is healthful, never tainted by noxious fogs, or pernicious exhalations. The soil of the lower parts near the rivers is sandy, of a light dry quality, and fertile when properly managed ; but a great proportion is moorish, and extensive moors remain to be improved.

*State of Property.*.—The parish appertains to 4 proprietors. In a beautiful wooded dale, on the southern bank of the *Findern*, is the family seat of Robert Cuming of *Logie* Esq. a large modern handsome house of 4 stories, with an elegant pavillion roof. To the extensive garden which his ancestors had formed, he has added an orchard of 4 acres, sheltered by groves of forest trees, and a winding bank, from every adverse blast. A number of ash trees have shot up to the height of almost 100 feet : but the fruit trees stand open to the reverberated power of the southern sun, and in general the crop is plentiful. The estate is embellished by plantations and natural wood to a considerable extent. Its valued rent is L.239. 15s. 10d. Scots. A little higher up upon the *Duvie* is *Relucos*, the seat of George Cuming Esq. writer to the signet. The house is elegant, embellished by enclosures, plantations, and many well disposed groves, equal in whole to 200 acres, among which are intermingled more than 60,000 thriving oaks. Many enchanting walks have been also formed along the winding banks both of the *Duvie* and *Findern*, which unite their streams a little below the house. The valued rent is L.194. 9s. 8d.

There is also some natural wood, and a full-grown plantation of fir

fir of considerable extent, upon the barony of Dunphail, which, with the lands of Phorp, Edinkillie, Fulliglens, and Dallasbraugh-  
ty, appertain to Colonel Alexander Penrose Cuming of Altyr and  
Gordonstown, amounting to the valuation of L.679. 9s. 2d.

The rest of the parish is the property of the Earl of Moray. In the higher district, the lands of Brea-Moray extend from the sources of the Duvie to the banks of Lochnadorb, upon a part of which Mr. Forbes of Culloden holds a lease, and has built a handsome hunting quarters. In the lower district of the parish, where its boundary is formed by a brook winding through the gardens, and parting under the castle, of Darnway, the forest extends more than 5 miles, mostly on the northern bank of the Findern, exhibiting a vast extent of oak, ash, elm, and venerable fir, blended with the distinguished form of the weeping birch, in countless multitude, and the bole of many more than 8 feet in circumference. His Lordship's valued rent in this parish of L.831. 13s. 4d. makes its total valuation equal to L.1945. 8s. Scots. The farms are of small extent, from L.3 to L.10, few rising to the rent of L.20. The arable land may be estimated at the mean rent of 15s. the acre.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church is in a central situation, on the banks of the Duvie, which tumbles through a deep rocky channel under the manse, in a steep bank of which, inaccessible to cattle, a few aspin, birch, and green trees, have established themselves. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is L.70 sterl<sup>ing</sup>, and 3 chalders of victual, the one half barley, the other oatmeal. The glebe, which the incumbent has inclosed, is 8 acres, exclusive of a small garden. The right of patronage appertains to the family of Moray. The salary of the parochial school was doubled in the year 1796, and now amounts to the revenue of L.11. 2s. 2d. 8-12ths sterl<sup>ing</sup>. With the fees of education, and the emoluments of the office of session-clerk, it is almost equal to L.18 in the year.

Dr. Duncan Cuming, of the family of Relucos, physician to King William at the battle of the Boyne, settled afterwards in Dublin, made a donation in the year 1714 to the Society for Christian Knowledge, with a recommendation to establish therewith 3 schools in the parish of his nativity. This donation of L.261. 13s. 7d. sterl<sup>ing</sup>, at that time of no small account, is equal at present to the maintenance of two schools: one established at Relucos, retaining about

20 scholars, and the other in the forest of Darnway, retaining about 20, which is also the mean number attending the parochial school: and a schoolmistress upon the estate of Logic retains about a dozen. Though pretty numerous in winter, they fail greatly, on account of tending the cattle, in the summer months. The whole number who were entered in all the schools in the course of the 1796, amounted to 200.

The number of the poor on the roll is 33. The provision for their support, arising wholly from the contributions of the people, who themselves are far from opulent, exceeds not £.5 Sterling in the year. The number of the people, by an accurate enumeration in the year 1793, amounted exactly to 4812, all members of the national church.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—In the upper part of the parish, the Gaelic language is much in use. About 50 years ago, half the public worship was performed in that tongue; and in the remaining parishes of this survey, Dyke and Auldearn excluded, until it reach to Knockando and Aberlour, upon the banks of the Spey, that dialect may be still accounted the mother tongue. The people, though poor, are in general honest, and far from backward in extending their charity. Their ideas respecting religion are rigidly Calvinistical.

The ancient fortresses of Lochnadarb and Dunphail have been described in a preceding section of this undertaking. The Dune of Relucos seems to have been a place of defence more ancient than them. It is a conical hill. Round a considerable part of its base, the rapid stream of Dumie occupies a deep rocky channel: the other part is guarded by a ditch equally impassable, having the sides lined by a strong rampart of stone, bearing in some parts the appearance of vitrification. The summit, 220 feet of perpendicular height above the river, is a level space of 60 by 20 yards. When the country was shrouded in wood, it must have been concealed, and so far inaccessible as to have been easily defended by a few: it is at present occupied only as nursery ground.

Sir James Grant of Grant has lately formed a new road from Grantown to Elgin, lessening the distance on the whole about 6 miles. In the course of this road, passing through the southern side of the parish tending to Pluscarden, a circumstance was discovered, establishing the formation of peat earth, from the natural dissolution

solution of wood. In cutting through a bed of this substance, about 2 feet from the surface, a matted layer of the roots of trees was found to have grown upon an under bed of the same kind of soil, which being also thrown up, a second tier of similar roots appeared, which had also grown upon a third bed of the same substance, which derived its original from the dissolution of the timber which grew upon the natural soil, the roots of which in a similar form remained in a firm sole of clay gravel, at the depth of nearly 9 feet from the surface.

NUMBER XV.

PARISH OF DYKE.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—THE arrangement of the parishes in the presbytery of Forres makes a short excursion southwards into the mountain, and returns back by the west towards the shore of the Firth. The southern quarter of the parish of Dyke borders on the northern limits of the parish of Edinkielie, on the confines of the rest of Darnway. From this it stretches eastward along the river Findern, and partly on the southern bank, by the shifting of its course in former times. The old bar, at its efflux appertaining to the parish of Kinloss, has been already noticed. The Frith, however, may be regarded as its boundary, for the space of 6 miles, on the north, till it meets the parish of Auldearn, from which it separated by a brook, *the Ellands Bourn*, and the moors called Hardmoor and Broadshaw, which run across the western limit of the county of Moray, bordering on the county of Nairn, till it again joins the parish of Edinkielie at the south. The latitude, by observation taken lately at the shore, is  $57^{\circ} 36' 21''$  north. The soil of the cultivated ground is for the greater part a light *kile* loam, generally incumbent on sand, and not very retentive of moisture. In some places, the sole is sand, concreted by some mineral substance, water probably surcharged by iron ore: in ploughing, it is avoided, as adverse to vegetation when mingled with the soil. The whole superficies of the parish contains 21 square miles, the half of which is a desert tract of drifting sand along the shore. The land side of this tract is bounded by a pretty high bank, which

may be traced westward nearly to Inverness, as if the sea had once flowed out to its bottom, and which still seems in this quarter to have limited the overspreading of the sand. An irregular tract of sterile moor spreads along the margin of this bank, the soil of which having been carried off in turf, the naked gravel remains, soliciting to be clothed by plantation, of which at present it exhibits some hopeful specimens. Three brooks unite near the church forming a considerable stream, which winds through the middle of the country, nearly parallel to the river. The air is healthful and dry, and the climate so genial, that the more delicate kinds of fruit, the apricot and peach, ripen on a wall in the open air.

*State of Property.*]—Darnway, the Earl of Moray's seat in this quarter of the kingdom, is an ancient and magnificent edifice though built in different ages, and in divers forms. The original fabric at the first consisted only of one hall, 89 feet in length, and 35 in breadth. Its walls rose nearly to the height of 32 feet; a range of vaults, constructed for cellars on its floor, has lowered the internal elevation to 20. Its roof of solid oak, similar to the Guildhall of London, and the parliament house of Edinburgh, remaining unceiled, displays the strength of the workmanship of the 14th century; for it was built by Randolph, the Regent of Scotland in the minority of David Bruce. Part of its original furniture yet remains. Earl Randolph's chair of state, similar in workmanship to the coronation chair of the monarchs of Britain, of the weight of oak, decorated with no very elegant carving, part of a coat armorial. Coeval with the chair, the table also, of the same kind of timber, remains. The modern fashion of folding doors the leaves upon the pillars was then unknown: a device more complicated served the same purpose: from one end, a leaf may be drawn out, equal to the length of the upper board, which is a quadrangle, supported on 6 massive columns. This hall was only intended for the temporary accommodation of hunting parties. Tradition relates, that its whole floor was deeply littered with green rushes, or grass, at night, and the Earl with all his suite repose thereon together. Numerous apartments have since been added, several of them fitted up and furnished with all the elegance of modern fashion. The castle rises on a green mount in the skirt of the forest: it commands a very extensive and pleasant landscape, and its environs, embellished by groves and gardens, and much named

namented cultivation. Its name has been with some ingenuity interpreted from the Gaelic, to be *Randolph's Mount*, TOR-RANNICH: but as *rannich* in that language signifies *fern*, and as that herb still maintains its place in vast quantity over all the forest, its appellation seems rather more simply to denote the *fern hill*. The original name of the district also was Fernway; and it is also highly probable, that the bridge of Rannich, a little farther up in the forest, long supposed to bear the proud title of its ancient lord, ought also to be reduced to its more suitable relation to the humble weed, overhanging the banks which it but artlessly conjoined. By the cess book of the county, the valued rent of this domain within the parish is stated at L.913. 13s. 10d.; but of this, the sum of L.39 is apportioned on lands in the parish of Edinkielie.

Northward from Darnway, is the seat of James Brodie of Brodie Esq. the residence of the family for 600 years. The fabric is a great building, not modern, yet displaying all the elegant accommodation of the present fashion. It rises on a green lawn in a pretty extensive park: a little lake, shaped into an artificial pond, is commanded by the front; a great extent of full-grown wood, in all the variety of the forest, rises on every side; long straight avenues stretch under its shade; and square inclosures under the best cultivation bask in its shelter. The valued rent in this parish is L.1263. 6d. Scots.

Eastward is the ancient barony of Grangehill, originally appertaining to the priory of Pluscarden, where a detachment of their brotherhood resided. Its name by a late owner was changed into Dalvey, signifying in the Gaelic, *the Plain of Spey*. It appertains to Capt. Macleod. Its valued rent extends to L.1174. 15s. 8d. Northward is the estate of Kincorth, the property of George Grant Esq. embellished by a modern handsome manor house: the valuation amounts to L.371. 10s. 6d. Binsness, valued at L.195. 8s. 7d. is said to have been lately acquired by Lord Kinnaid, with the salmon fisheries both in the river and in the salt water, valued at the yearly rent of L.500 sterling. The rest of the parish appertains to Col. Hugh Grant. The family seat at Moy is a magnificent modern structure, embellished by gardens, groves, shrubbery, and walks; also a princely suite of farm-offices, adorned by a spire and public clock: a highly cultivated manor spreads over the plain along the bank of the river. The valued rent paying cess in the

county of Moray amounts to L. 1755. 17s. 5d. Scots, extending the valuation of the parish to the sum of L. 5674. 6s. 6d. Scots. But the lands of Easter Moy, amounting to the valued rent of L. 218. 10s. 6d. are under the jurisdiction of the sheriffdom of Nairn, though distant from the borders of that county; but having been in the possession of the ancestors of Lord Cawdor, when hereditary sheriff of Nairn, this portion of the domain would have occasionally subjected their haughty independence to the court of the sheriff of Moray, had not this accommodation to the prejudices of the feudal times been devised. Many places, politically insulated, on the same account, remain both in England and in Scotland; and the inconveniences which this occasions in the administration of civil justice in its present establishment, have been hitherto wholly overlooked.

But this political evil becomes of no consideration, when one physical calamity in this parish, of ghastly nature and enormous size, is taken into contemplation—the astonishing superinduction of sand, by which the fertile and populous barony of Culbin has been reduced to a state of absolute and irremediable sterility. It pays the land-tax in the county of Moray, answering to its valued rent of L. 913. 18s. 4d. Scots. Though included in Col. Grant of Moy's valued rent, it is the property of his nephew, Mr. Grant of Redcastle, whom it qualifies to be elected to represent the county in parliament.

Those astonishing mounds of sand, raised along the whole coast of the parish, although no doubt produced by the sea, and probably by its encroachments on the shores nearer the head of the Frith, have not acquired their form under the action of the water. They are not composed of different strata, or beds, and they have no mixture of pebbles, sea-weed, or shells; but they are immense accumulations of pure washed white sand, of the smallest texture, having their situation, bulk, and form, determined only by the wind. The smallest particles, though the first that are suspended, are the last which are deposited by the water, and thereby exposed to the power of the wind, while pebbles, shells, and heavier sand, remain upon the beach.

Extraordinary commotions, from various causes, have been sometimes excited in the German Ocean. They have been strongly felt upon the coast of Holland, when they had also risen high upon

the whole length of our eastern shore, from the banks of the Thames to the Pentland Frith. One striking example needs be only adduced: By the commotion which the Lisbon earthquake in 1755, excited, although so far distant on the west and opposite side of the island, a flock of sheep of this parish were drowned in their cot, though far beyond the reach of any ordinary tide.

The wide expanse of the Moray Frith, at its termination between the shore of Caithness and the coasts of Aberdeen, opens the access to a heavier inundation from the ocean, and the bold shore upon the northern side rolls it large upon the Moray coast, which is uncommonly flat to the westward of Burgh-head, as the vast swell from the ocean is impelled along the contracting channel of the Frith: and some dreadful commotion, both of the land and water, it must have been, which amassed the ample store for such a ruinous accumulation.

The time in which this dismal visitation first began has almost escaped the notice of particular record; yet general history affords several intimations of storms and inundations, which might have been the remote cause of this perpetual devastation.

It has been already noticed in No. 3d, that the inundation which submerged the princely fortune of Earl Goodwin, on the coast of Kent, must have raised a dreadful commotion in all the estuaries on the eastern side of the island, and shaken the whole coast from the one end to the other. The era of this desolation coincided with the reign of Rufus in England, and Canmore in Scotland, towards the end of the eleventh century. Dr. Trussler's Chronology specifies the year 1100 as the epoch of the Goodwin Sands. Fordun and Buchanan, it has been already shown, mention inundations, and devastations by sand, in this kingdom, alarmingly astonishing, about the period which Trussler marks for this similar visitation upon the English shore. Respecting the year, Buchanan is not particular, but speaks in general of *the prodigies of that age*: but Boethius particularly conjoins the inundation with the year of Canmore's death, namely 1097, within 3 years of the date which Trussler has set down; and he expressly relates, that its ravages were desolation on the coast of Moray, of which county, it is obvious, the ideas of Buchanan were extremely indistinct.

"The death of Malcolm," says Boethius, "happened on the 13th of October, in the year of our redemption 1097, and in the

" 37th year of his reign; and in the same year Albion was terrified by many most alarming prodigies: many villages, castles, towns, and extensive woods; both in England and in Scotland, were overwhelmed by an inundation of the German Ocean, by the weight of which tempest, the lands of Godowine, near the mouth of the Thames, which we have formerly mentioned, were overwhelmed by sand; and likewise the land of Moray in Scotland was at that time desolated by the sea, castles subverted from the foundation, some towns destroyed, and the labours of men laid waste, by the discharge of sand from the sea: monstrous thunders also roaring, horrible and vast!"

To this it may be added, that in the *Scotichronicon*, book 7th, chap. 50. Fördun mentions a comet, to the influence of which he ascribes the excesses of these waters. "The order of the Trinity," says he, "was instituted in the year 1097. In that same year, the 41st of the Emperor Henry IV. a comet appeared in the west from the 1st of October: the sowing of winter grain is prevented (*aquarum nimia inundatione*) by excessive inundations of water; and a failure of the crop ensues."

In the *Advocates' Library*, it is also said, the records of the priory of Pluscarden, called the *Red Book*, are still preserved; in which it is recorded, that the whole low country of Moray was deluged by the sea in the year 1010. If there be an error by misplacing the two middle numbers, this date accurately coincides with the period about which Fördun, Boethius, Trusler, and even Buchanan, have all so nearly agreed.

It must therefore be allowed, that inundations of the most destructive magnitude did happen towards the close of the 11th century. What their effect upon the coast of Dyke may have particularly been, lies beyond the reach even of conjecture, farther than that they extended not so far as the sand has now spread; for even in the last century, the northern quarter of the parish, including the barony of Culbin, was distinguished as the granary of Moray. Cultivation therefore was long continued, and it is likely that when only a little sand had been deposited, the fertility of the ground would be thereby increased. But this vast magazine, which, it is conjectured, the waves may have produced, by washing off the cape which gave the name to Inverness, and the promontory from the point of Airdersier, has been accumulated somehow into the

Mavistown hills, on the eastern borders of the parish of Auldearn. From thence they began to drift over the nearest fields of Culbin, in the tract of the south-west winds, and even the greater part of these singular mounds themselves have migrated from Auldearn into Dyke, the heavier sand, when moved by the gale, settling upon the lee-side. The encroachments have been every year gradually extended, the rents paid in virtual proportionally reduced, the tenants one after another, and the landlord, with all their families, mournfully expelled, and their habitations and possessions covered up, it is supposed, to the height of the trees of the gardens about the manor. The desolation must have been completed prior to the year 1695, as by the narrative of the Act of Parliament then made to prevent the pulling of bent, "the barony of Culbin, and "house and yards thereof, is quite ruined, and overspread with "sand." The farm of Earthill, a corner of the estate without the tract of the sand, accommodated for some time the proprietor, which now alone remains, scarcely yielding a rent of L.80, of an estate which otherwise, at this time, would have produced more than L.1000.

Although little farther damage in this quarter needs be apprehended, yet the whole body of the sand is uniformly progressive from the west, being little affected by the wind from any other quarter. About 20 years ago, a march stone was placed on one of the sand hills, about 40 feet in height, that it might be the more conspicuous; and it was then conjectured, that the stone would either bury itself, by sinking in the hill, or that the hill would rise over it. The stone however kept its place: the hill, moving off, left it on the plain. That the sand is therefore blown into the bay of Findhorn in considerable quantities, admits of no doubt, as part of it by every strong gale is carried quite across the water: but whether he it borne eastward by the tide, to be deposited on some other shore, or only washed back again in perennial alternate succession upon its own coast, may be perhaps in another century discovered.

The real rent of the parish, including that of the fisheries, and the value of the grounds about the seats of the proprietors, may be stated at L.3000. The number of acres under cultivation amounts to 2697, and the natural and planted wood occupies 1191. There are several farms of considerable extent, from L.60 to upwards of

places both in Scotland and England, in the contemporary reigns of Henry II. and William the Lyon. Some of the oldest, struck at Striviling, bore on one side RE VILLAM, the Gaelic for King William.

The people are decent, peaceful, and well affected to the national religion and government: they are little addicted either to a seafaring or military life: they live poorly, that they may dress neatly; but few attempt to save money.

Grain is annually disposed of in considerable quantities, oats chiefly and barley, sometimes wheat. Old oxen and dry cows are sold off for the English graziers. When young oxen and milk cows can be sent to market, they always sell at a great price. The spinning of flax, formerly of great consideration, may still bring into the parish about L. 300 yearly. The management of the salmon has been already noticed in the trade of Findhorn (No. x.); a kit generally contains 3 salmon, about 10 lb. each. Considerable quantities of cod fish are caught by the boats of Findhorn and Nairn, more abundantly at that season which does not admit of their being dried in the open air; a quantity was cured in barrels like salted salmon, and tried, from this parish, in the London market; the sale was not such as to encourage the continuance of the trade. It has been suggested, that if they were boiled in vinegar, like kitted salmon, they might find a brisker market.

A considerable number of seals frequent the coast. One man killed 130 in a year; the oil and skin of each brought 4s. This fishery is an object of the greater importance, because the seal both prey upon the salmon and frighten them off the coast.

A market of wood has been lately established. One of the proprietors has disposed of a plantation to be felled in 7 years, at the rate of L. 100 yearly; and the ground is to be again planted as soon as the whole is cleared. He has a similar plantation in equal forwardness, and several rising in succession. The larger allers are employed in the construction of boats and small vessels: birch is made up into the cheapest kinds of agricultural utensils: the ash, the elm, beech, and plane, with a few oaks that can be spared, are shipped off at Findhorn: and the fir, manufactured into deals, and timber for the roofing of houses, begins to find its way to the same port.

## NUMBER XVI.

## PARISH OF AULDEARN.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THE parish of Auldearn, on the eastern frontier of the county of Nairn, extends 6 miles westward along the coast, from the boundary of Dyke; and it is stretched to the same extent backward from the shore, meeting Ardclach and Calder towards the south. The village of Auldearn, signifying in the Gaelic, *the aller brook*, although not entitled now to that appellation, is near the centre of the parish: it is also 20 miles from Elgin, and at the same distance from Inverness. A highway between these towns passes through it, more pleasant, in equal repair, and not longer than the post road, conducted through a desert skirt on the outside of the parish.

The soil in the eastern quarter of the parish is a strong clay of a red colour; it produces luxuriant crops, but is of difficult cultivation: southward towards Ardclach, it is a blacker mould, but not so fertile nor early. About the village, the soil is light, and the crops are only weighty and full in rainy or moist summers. The northern side of the parish is a heavy cold loam, difficult to manage in a wet winter or spring. Lord Cawdor's property is so much encumbered by baulks and stone, that its value might be raised more than one fifth by clearing properly the fields.

The climate, healthful, is generally serene and dry, but a little colder and more wet in the higher parts of the country.

*State of Property.*]—The valued rent of the parish amounts to £.7255. 7d. Scots. Lethin-house, the family seat of Miss Brodie, is a stately handsome edifice, pleasantly situated in a valley, and embellished by the rural decorations of gardens, enclosures, walks, and a great extent of wood on either hand; among which a number of majestic beeches form a striking appearance, by the bulky strength of the tall bole, and the lofty canopy of the spreading branches. The valued rent is £.1100 Scots.

In a green dale, northward of the village, is the seat of the ancient family of the Dunbars of Boath. It is pleasantly situated on the bank of a winding brook; the garden, plantation, and ornamental cultivation, decorate the environs of this handsome structure. The

valued rent of the estate is L.652. 15s. 9d. James Brodie of Brodie Esq. is the proprietor of the barony of Inshoch; on which there is a ruined castle, and a considerable extent of natural birch wood and full-grown fir plantation. On the adjoining estate of Penick, originally a part of the lands of the priory of Urquhart, there is a commodious old house of three stories, which, though for some years uninhabited, is in pretty good repair. The valued rent of these estates is L.1599. 11s. Scots. The lands of Blackhills, Rait-lane, Leylands, with Moyness, Boghole, and Earl's-seat, valued at L.1483. 19s. 6d. appertain to Lord Cawdor. The estate of Knock-andie, valued at L.96, is the property of Miss Ore of Nairn: and the rest of the parish, Kinudie, Kinsterie, Auldearn, and Park, appertain to Charles Gordon of Braid Esq. writer to the signet. On this property, valued at L.2322. 14s. 4d. Scots, there is an elegant country seat, and more than 600 acres in wood, in groves, stripes, and extended plantations. The land is also greatly embellished and improved by drains, hedges, and enclosures; the fields have been cleared of every incumbrance; the larger stones burst by gunpowder; and the most substantial and perfect cultivation every-where completed.

The real rent may rise above L.3000. sterling. There are a few farms rented from L.60 to L.80: but the greater number from L.10 to L.26 sterling. The most fertile soils let from L.1. 5s. to L.1. 16s. the acre. The fields indeed are open; but the tenants would cheerfully give an adequate rise of rent, were substantial inclosures formed. About 2000 bolls of barley, and the same quantity of oats, may be disposed of yearly. The number of horses is 370. The black cattle are generally starved in the spring, and but poorly fed in the summer: their number is nearly 910. The sheep are of the small white-faced breed, and amount to about 1200. The village of Auldearn consists of 41 dwellings, which contain 185 inhabitants, whereof 4 are merchants, and 3 are inn-keepers.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—During the Roman Catholic dispensation, Auldearn was the seat of the dean of the diocese of Moray. It may be presumed his office, first instituted in the year 1220 by Bishop Bruce, obliged him to reside principally, with the other canons, at the cathedral in Elgin. It does not appear that he had any other revenue but the tithes of Auldearn and Nairn, and the field at Elgin called the Deans' Crook, about 4 acres, now in the parish

parish of Spynie. There is nothing known respecting the succession of the deans: their scanty revenue or remote situation might have prevented any of them, though of distinguished abilities, from attaining to eminence: it may be presumed, that the number of incumbents, after their institution, might be equal on the whole to that of the bishops.

In the year 1650, about the time when the formation of the parish of Kinloss was proposed, some parts of the skirts of Auldearn were more commodiously annexed to Nairn, Calder, and Ardclach.

In the year 1773, the presbytery of Nairn, which, together with that county, is here to be considered, was established by the decree of the General Assembly, conjoining Auldearn, Nairn, and Ardclach, from the presbytery of Forres, to Calder and Croy from that of Inverness, and to Airdersier from the presbytery of Chanonry, of the synod of Ross, upon the other side of the Frith, with which it had been incommodiously clasped.

The church, a modern building, in the village, is conjoined to the walls of a ruined steeple; yet, like a house with but one chimney, stands disfigured by the characteristic of Caledonian frugality, the meanly looking belfry.

The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is L.48. 15s. 6d. 54 bolls of meal, and 48 of bear, with 14 wedders, generally converted at 3s. 6d. each, being paid when only one year old. Eleven shillings of the money is paid from the Deans' Crook, probably the original rent (10 merks Scots), which has been ever retained. The right of patronage appertains to Mr. Brodie of Brodie. The salary of the school is 16 bolls in meal and bear, and the customary fees of about 30 scholars, and the fee of the session clerk, about L.3, with the customary perquisites. The provision for the poor contributed in the usual manner by the people amounts to about L.10 yearly, to which is added L.4. 16s. arising from the interest of a capital saved by the parsimony of the session during the last incumbency, distributed annually among 50 persons, or occasionally as the necessities of any may require.

The members of the national Church amount to 1309, and there are 97 dissenters of the Antiburger sect of Seceders: joined by a few of their brethren in the neighbouring parishes, they support a clergy-

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man of their own sort: His residence and chapel are at Boghole, on the frontiers of Edinkieie, where one of the same sect has lately opened a school at the common rates, as mentioned in the first No.; and partly by its novelty, and partly by its remote situation from the established schools; this seminary has been hitherto well attended: but the zeal of the secession waxes gradually more cold.

*Miscellaneous Information.*.—The people rest their virtue in the observance of devotional rather than in the discharge of moral duties. From the strictest attention to the last they believe themselves set free, by formal and prolonged exercises of the first. Many on this account make long pilgrimages to attend those popular preachers, who inculcate chiefly the efficacy of faith, and delight to dwell on the merits of the atonement; and although the people in general deem every gratification of sense to be sinful in some degree, yet petty thefts among them are not uncommon. Flagrant immorality, however, and disgraceful profligacy, are carefully eschewed; and they err rather through illiberal and inveterate prejudice, than from want of principle, or through depravity of mind.

It is ascertained, that an almost inexhaustible store of pure rich marble is contained in the moss and lake of Lutie, on the property of Lord Cawdor. It extends over a space of 40 acres, and is from 16 to 20 feet deep. It would not be costly to drain off the water: and Mr. Gordon of Braid has shown the beneficial effects of similar marble on his estate of Kinsterie, in his crops of corn, turnip, and grass.

It appears probable to people skilled in opening coal pits, that this useful mineral might be found in the grounds between Boat and the shore. There is a quarry wrought of dark blue stone, which, like coal, flames in the fire; yet its bulk is not diminished, nor, on the application of water, does it fall into a powder like limestone calcined.

Large fir trees are dug in the tracts of peat earth in different parts of the parish. Some have been found 60 feet in length, and in diameter nearly 3: they are used in the roofing of houses.

Under the bank, which, it has been said, ranges along the coast from Dyke nearly to Inverness; there is in this parish a lake about a mile in length, but less than the half of that in breadth; it is below the level of the sea, of which it seems to have been once a

part:

part: by the drifting of the sand, it is still more and more diminished both in extent and depth, though it still retains more than 7 fathoms of water.

The temples of the Druids, pretty numerous over all this quarter of the country, bear evidence of its having been inhabited from very remote antiquity. An artificial green mount near the church, though called the Castlehill, is generally supposed to have been accumulated for the court of civil justice, when these temples of the Druids were forsaken. And it may be presumed, that if justice was not always obtained, yet it must have cost less when administered on a green mount, in the open air, than in a splendid hall, on cushioned chairs, ermine robes of state, and fantastic wigs.

There are 3 annual fairs in the village, where black cattle is always the staple. That on the 21st of June was established on the festival of St. Columba, and is yet called St. Colm's market.

The village is distinguished as the field of one of the celebrated victories of the Marquis of Montrose in 1645, for Charles I. endeavouring to establish prelacy in Scotland, and despoticism over all the empire. If it be at any time for the good of a nation, or for the happiness of a people, to commence a civil war, it must be to oppose the practical establishment of the doctrine of passive obedience and non-resistance: yet that generation involved themselves in calamities much more deplorable than any which they feared from the king; and after all, they tamely yielded up those rights to an upstart usurper, for the defence of which they had rebelled against and murdered a respectable prince, the representative of a long line of their national monarchs.

The inhabitants of Moray in that age were adverse to the measures of the court, respecting both the church and state. Montrose therefore plundered, burned, and destroyed the whole country, in a progress from Inverness, particularly the estates and houses of Brodie of Lethin, and Brodie of Brodie, Dunbar of Grangehill, Kinnaird of Culbin, Burgie, Duffus, Garmach, Innes, and Redhall, destroying also the nets and boats, to ruin the fishery of Spey. Easter-eve's market at Elgin was that year given up, for the fear of this gallant plunderer: and the most substantial people of the town, abandoning their houses, fled with their families and most valuable effects to the castle of Spynie, at that time a tenable fortress. In this situation, the forces of the people, under Lieutenant General Urry, rendezvous at Inverness.

ness. In a casual skirmish, as the troops marched onward, a young gentleman of the King's party, Mr. Gordon of Rhynie, being wounded, retired for his recovery to the house of a friend at Struthers near Forres, and he was there murdered by a party of the people from Elgin, under the conduct of the young knight of Innes, zealous against prelacy and non-resistance, hastening to join the army at Inverness. Montrose followed after to Auldearn, with 1500 foot, and 250 horse; where he was met by Urry and many of the chiefs of the people, with an army of 3500 men and 400 horse. From before such superior powers Montrose was inclined to retreat: but that was extremely hazardous, by the approach of General Baillie from behind, with an army still better appointed. He was therefore obliged to try the fate of a battle, in which the superiority of numbers was in a great degree compensated by the advantage of the ground. Montrose concealed the greater part of his forces behind the village, at that time on the height covering the valley below, in which he placed a chosen band, protected by an earthen fence. He gave the command of the right wing to Colonel Alexander Macdonald, placed also in a situation protected by banks, dykes, bushes, and great stones. There the royal standard was displayed, to entice the enemy to waste the exertion of their best forces, where it must be impotent from the situation of the ground; commanding the Colonel to keep within his strength, notwithstanding any provocation which the enemy might give. Lord Gordon led the cavalry, and himself took the charge of the rest of the infantry, drawn up into the left wing, forming no main army, unless the chosen band stationed before the village might be so termed. This the van of the army of the people attacked, bending at the same time, as had been foreseen, their best strength against the right wing and the royal standard, pouring in fresh supplies of men, relieving the troops that were spent. While this suggested to Montrose the idea of a general attack, he was privately informed that the right wing were put to flight: "My Lord," he cried aloud to the leader of the horse, dissembling to arouse the spirit of his men, " Macdonald routs the enemy on the right: let him not carry off the glory of the day: let us also give a general and a vigorous charge." This the cavalry of Urry were unable to sustain; in their rout they even disordered the foot, whose flank they left also exposed: for some time, however, they bore against the shock, but

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were at last also forced into flight. And Montrose thereupon hastened to support Macdonald, who in the ardour of the onset had rashly advanced from his strength, to which, however, undismayed he re-conducted his men, covering their retreat himself, protected by an ample shield, and defended by a keen fword. The horse which had encountered him, perceiving the rout of their fellows, and the conquerors advancing on themselves, fled after with most cowardly precipitation; but the veteran foot maintained their ground till almost every man fell in his rank, and the victory of Montrose was to his utmost wish complete, with the loss only of 20 of his men. 2000 of the enemy were slain; many prisoners were taken; the whole baggage, much wealth and ammunition, and 16 standards, were won: but the horse by their inglorious flight were for the greater part unhurt. Montrose returned southwards, plundering and burning the country as he passed; the estate, in particular, of the family of Cawdor, and their houses in the town of Nairn; and for avenging the murder of Rhynie's son, the houses of that party, in the town of Elgin, were also rifled and burned, by which other houses of the town were at the same time incidentally destroyed.

Such great misfortunes did our ancestors suffer, and so much of their blood was shed, not from any ideas then entertained about the enlargement of their civil liberties, but merely for the establishment of the simple form of presbyterian worship, and for that arrangement which mixes the people so equally with the clergy, in all that respects the discipline and government of the church.

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#### NUMBER XVII.

#### PARISH OF NAIRN.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—FROM the borders of the parish of Auldearn, Nairn stretches 6 miles westward along the Frith, and it extends backward into the country about 8. It is intersected by the river which imparts its name to the parish and to the town, denoting in the Gaelic, *the water of allers*; its banks to a considerable extent having been covered with that species of wood. The

ground on the north side of the river spreads out a level plain to the shore of the Frith: on the other, it rises in a gentle acclivity, terminating towards the southern corner in a considerable eminence, named, from the adjoining lands, the Hill of Urchahy. In the environs of the town, and along the coast, the soil is sandy; the same kind of soil is continued on the banks of the river, but greatly mixed with clay; and the country on its southern side is of a rich and heavy mould.

*State of Property.]*—The parish is possessed by 5 proprietors, excluding the grounds appertaining to the community, and the small heritages about the borough. Kildrummy and Torrich, part of the estate of Kilravock, are valued in the cens roll of the county at L.273. 5s. 11d. Scots. The barony of Geddes and Allanhall are valued at L.412. 11d. Scots. The lands of Delpies, mortgaged to Mr. Campbel by the family of Cawdor, are valued at L.204. 2s. 3d. And Belmaketh, appertaining to Mr. Dunbar of Boath, is valued at L.129. 4s. 3d. The rest of the country part of the parish appertains to Lord Cawdor, which, with the salmon fishery, is valued at L.462. 5s. 9d. Scots: extending the whole valued rent of the parish, with the valuation of the borough lands, about L.500 Scots, to L.1980. 19s. 1d. The number of farms are about 50, and of inconsiderable extent, generally not exceeding L.20 sterling of rent, there being only 2 equal to L.50 sterling. In the immediate vicinity of the town, the acre rents at L.1. 15s. sterling; farther distant, from 18s. to L.1. 10s.; and in the country, from 5s. to L.1.

The salmon fishery on the river (a branch of which is carried on likewise in the salt water, near its influx, distinguished by the epithet of *still-fishing*, from the silent mode of conducting it, by a signal, in the smooth water) is the joint property of Colonel Cumming Gordon of Altyr, and Mr. Davidson of Cantray: it is separately occupied by their tenants, at the rent of L.36 sterling from each, and is alternately carried on in the river and in the sea. Mr. Brodie of Brodie has also a still-fishery on the east side of the river, at the rent of L.8 sterling. There are 6 boats in the town and 2 in the country for the sea fish, in each of which 7 men are employed. Besides the species of fish got eastward in the Frith already mentioned, they generally find some herring in every season, for which they must however go as far west as the influx of the Nefs.

Previous to the year 1782, all kinds of fish were found in plenty just opposite to the town: at present they are sometimes not to be got nearer than the coasts of Sutherland and Caithness.

The town is pleasantly and commodiously situated on the west bank of the river, near the shore of the Frith. The jail and town-house are on the middle of the street; from which many narrow lanes extend to the river on the one side, and to an extensive plain of fertile corn field, of more than 400 acres, on the other. The first charter now extant is the grant of James VI. in the year 1589, bearing to be the renewal of a charter by Alexander I. The revenue of the borough arises from a considerable extent of moor, let on various leases to be improved, by which a considerable increment will in due time be made. Some feu duties are likewise derived from the borough lands, and from the tolls of 6 stated fairs in the year, and the weekly market. The government of the borough is committed to 17, the Provost, and 3 Baillies, Dean of Guild, and Treasurer, with 11 Counsellors. As the gentlemen of the town are not numerous enough for the requisite annual changes, gentlemen from the country are admitted into the magistracy: but the Baillies, Dean of Guild, and Cashier, by a late decision of the House of Peers, must be resident in the town. The whole trades are formed into one incorporation.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church and burying ground are on the south side of the town, washed by the river. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is L.32 sterl. and 5 shalders of bear. The right of patronage appertains to Mr. Brodie of Brodie. The salary of the parochial school is 16 bolls of bear, and the customary perquisites of office. It has been for many years in a very flourishing state: the number of scholars sent from all quarters of the country, and some occasionally from England, is seldom below 80, and often upwards of 100. All the branches of education carried on in the academies are taught with ability and success. There is also in the town a school for girls, where the customary branches of female education are properly conducted: the salary paid by the community is L.10, and a house. The roll of the poor amounts to the number of 150. The provision collected in the church for their support, about L.8 sterl. yearly, and a small sum bearing interest, admits only of one dividend in the year: but the extremely needy receive occasional supply. The

number of inhabitants are 2400, of whom about 1100 appertain to the borough. There are several families of Antiburger Seceders, and a few of the Episcopalian persuasion.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—On the south side of the town, on the bank of the river, is the Castlehill, where stood a royal fort, of which the Thanes of Cawdor were hereditary constables till the year 1747. The constabulary garden is still distinguished as an article of the valuation of the estate, to the extent of L. 3. 10s. Scots. At a very remote period of antiquity, the castle was situated nearer to the shore, upon the influx of the river; which, similar to the Spey and Findern, then flowed half a mile farther westward along the shore than its present termination. There are some persons still alive who remember to have seen at spring tides vestiges of its foundation, at present a considerable way within the bed of the ocean. The chapel of the Virgin Mary, built at Geddes in the year 1220, has ever been the burial place of the family of Kilravock. The burial ground around it is also still in use. In 1475 Pope Sextus IV, granted a discharge for 100 days penance for every visit to this chapel on certain high festivals, and also for a certain extent of donation for the repairs of the building.

The county of Nairn consists of 4 parishes, with some inconsiderable corners of some that are contiguous of the county of Inverness. In the representation in Parliament, it is conjoined with the county of Cromarty, on the opposite side of the Frith; each electing their commissioner alternately. The office of the sheriff was hereditary in the family of Cawdor till the year 1747, when it was made a part of the sheriffdom of Moray. And with the common county courts, that also of the sheriff, by his substitute, is regularly maintained in the town.

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NUMBER XVIII.

PARISH OF AIRDERSIER.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THIS parish lies on the shore of the Frith, westward of that of Nairn, having a wing of the parish of Petty interjected between its southern side and the mountain. The

name

name in the Gaelic, when a little corrected, denotes *the height of the edge*: the greater part of the cultivated land, lying upon a plain extended backward from the sharp edge of a steep bank, rising 100 feet above the level beach of the sea. The southern or land side of the parish is stretched a little more than 2 miles; and it might be conceived as a promontory terminating in the Frith, having the cape washed off almost to the level of the sea by some inundation, in an æra beyond the notice of historical record; while the appearance of the ground, both in the smoothness of the compacted gravel of the plain below the bank, and in the steepness of the bank itself, suggests this idea. It might also with probability be conjectured, from the quality of the sand of which the bank appears to be composed, that the substance of this promontory, washed up again upon the shore of the parish of Dyke, formed the Mavis hills, and the magazine for the irruption over the estate of Culbin.

There is in the parish a considerable variety of soil: stiff clay, deep black mould, shallow black soil, and light sand. The parish lying either pretty high, or stretched out into the sea, the climate is rather cold, but neither wet nor unhealthy.

*State of Property.*]—The whole parish is the property of Lord Cawdor, except the ground purchased by Government for the station of Fort George, and a farm for the accommodation of the Governor. His Lordship pays the whole of the land tax affecting the valued rent, which extends to L.600 Scots. The real rent of the parish when Fort George was built was L.315 sterling, and L.50 more, which was the rent of the farm sold to Government. The parish contains 1985 acres, of which 966 are moor: after supplying the inhabitants, it, in general, disposes of 300 bolls. It is let in whole to one tenant, who sublets the greater part, in farms of 20 or 30 acres; the best arable land at L.1. 10s. the acre, and that of an inferior quality from 5s. to 7s. 6d.

The situation of Cromwell's citadel upon the influx of the river at Inverness was originally chosen by Government for the station of Fort George; but the Magistracy of that town, from an apprehension of its tendency to corrupt the morals of the people, eluded its erection there, by such an exorbitant demand for the price of the ground, that the Duke of Cumberland, in a huff, upon the report of able engineers, found the ground whereon it now stands to be the most eligible, which, with the farm that has been mentioned,

was

was purchased from the family of Cawdor. The work was commenced in the year 1747, under the direction of General Skinner: the original estimate was L.120,000 sterling; but it required a little more than the addition of L.40,000 to that sum. The citadel occupies 15 English acres of the point of low ground already described. On three sides the ramparts rise almost out of the sea, which can be introduced at pleasure into a formidable excavation stretched along the fourth, with which the ancient fossé round any Gothic castle could not either in breadth or in depth be compared. It is said to be the only regular fortification in Britain: every member of the work is covered by the defence of some other, and the besiegers can take no station without being exposed to its fire. The depression of the out-works is so managed, that the interior of the citadel commands every part around it, and the plain is so broad on the land-side as to afford no advantage from any higher ground, while its gravel is so compact and solid as to make the opening of trenches extremely difficult. It has 4 bastions, is mounted by 80 cannon, and well supplied with water. Besides the bomb-proof apartments under the ramparts, the interior of the citadel consists of handsome squares of barracks, elegant accommodation for the Governor and other officers, a spacious armoury, a secure bomb-proof magazine, convenient stores, and a neat chapel. It is sufficient for the accommodation of 3000 men.

It is hardly possible to contemplate the art and science displayed in rendering it defensible, without admiring the advancement in fortification since those rude ages in which the capital of Asia was protected by a simple earthen rampart, flanked only with some towers of wood, and without even the security of a ditch. Homer represents Patroclus, upon having repulsed a sortie of the Trojans, springing lightly on the top of the wall: an action which the judicious bard would never have admitted, upon a perpendicular stone wall and a broad ditch.

The usefulness of Fort George is not now very obvious: great improvement has no doubt taken place in the manners and sentiments of the people of the country around, since it was first garrisoned, to which it is not easy to say how much it may have contributed. Considering the state of the country at that time, its influence may have been considerable; but it would have been ineffectual still, without the free access to every quarter which the for-

mation

mation of roads has opened, the knowledge and new ideas which the establishment of schools has diffused: to which it may be added, that the protection of the persons and of the substance of the common people, by the equal extension of the laws to every rank, hath produced among them a satisfaction and elevation of mind unknown to their ancestors, the slaves of baronial despotism.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church was removed from the vicinity of the ground sold to Government, to the plain above the bank, about the year 1769. Its walls, as well as those of the manse, are formed of clay, without any stone or lime. The burial ground remains at the old station of the church, and is also used by the people of the fortress. The right of patronage appertains to Lord Cawdor. There is no parochial school. The number of the poor amounts to 50: the money contributed in the church for their support amounts to about £.15 sterlinc in the year. The number of people, exclusive of the inhabitants of the fort, is 802: there are only a few Seceders dissenting from the national church.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—The Gaelic and English languages are spoken with equal readiness. There is a considerable village, Campbeltown, containing about 300 inhabitants, which has been raised in consequence of the occasions of the garrison. It maintains 8 boats, from 5 to 8 tons burden, employed in the white and herring fishery: the herring are chiefly sold to fishing busses. Salmon are also caught in the Frith. On the boundary of the parish of Nairn, there is a rude obelisk, about 6 feet in height, reported to have been erected on the grave of a chief, who lost his life in a silly scuffle about a cheese.

#### NUMBER XIX.

#### PARISH OF CROY.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—CROY lies on the southern side of Ardersier, and upon the west of Nairn. It is intersected through 8 miles of its length by the river of that name, on the western side of which it is extended in the direction northwest from Nairn, for the space of 16 miles, consisting almost of one continued low ridge of white

white incorifi ground, on which there are several small plots of poorly cultivated land. The soil along the river is a fertile loam; and in several parts fields of a good quality are found; but a great part is poor and thin, on a cold hard soil, and the crop subjected to damage when the harvest is late and wet.

*State of Property.*—The parish, in the counties of Nairn and Inverness, is shared among ten proprietors. The family seat of Kilravock is an old tower, supposed to have been built in the year 1460, to which an elegant modern mansion, on a rock overhanging the river, is conjoined. The gardens, an orchard, and a considerable extent of natural and planted wood, embellish the environs. The domain is in the county of Nairn: the valued rent amounts to L.792. A little farther up, pleasantly situated on the banks of the river, is Holm, the seat of Mr. Rose, in the county of Inverness, a neat modern house, embellished by natural and planted wood: the valuation is L.120. Still farther up the river, in the same county, is Cantray, the mansion-house of David Davidson Esq. He has at once ornamented and improved his ample property, in a very high degree: more than 400 acres of waste have been brought into the highest state of cultivation: his plantations exceed 2000 acres: he has built a splendid and commodious mansion, and a handsome bridge in its environs, of the greatest utility and ornament. His domains are in both counties: the estate of Clava in Nairn, valued at L.292. 15s. 8d. added to those of Cantray and Clavala in the county of Inverness, extends his valued rent in this parish to the sum of L.839. Arthur Forbes of Culloden Esq. has lands in both counties within this parish: his valuation in Nairn of L.358. 14s. 6d. added to that of Lenoch and Bellbraid in the county of Inverness, makes his valuation equal to L.449. 4s. 6d. The rest of the parish is wholly in the county of Inverness. The old castle and estate of Dalcross, the property of Mr. Mackintosh of Mackintosh, is valued at L.190: Part of the barony of Inches, the property of Mr. Robertson, is valued at L.230. Daltalich, a part of the estate of Lovat, is valued at L.116. 13s. 4d. Mid Leys, the property of Mr. Baillie, is valued at L.133. 6s. 8d. Leys, the property of Col. Fraser of Culduthel, is valued at L.130: and the property appertaining to Mr. Cuthbert of Castlehill, valued at L.56, makes the whole valuation of the parish amount to L.2995. 14s. 6d. Scots.

The greater part of the farms are below L.20 sterling of rent.

Several

Several of them are inconsiderable crofts, lately brought into culture, and threatening to return to their original state of moor. There are a few rented from L.40 to L.50, managed in the best manner.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The parish, in its present extent, consists of Croy, and the parish of Dalcross, annexed before or about the Reformation. The vicar of Dalcross is mentioned in the records of the times of popery; and the burial ground, still used a little, and the walls of its church, remain; and its glebe makes a part of the present glebe. The names of both parishes are supposed to be originally French, *Croix*, the *cross*, and *De la Croix*: but as a district in the western quarter of the kingdom is named *Glencro*, or *croy*, it may be of Gaelic birth. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is L.30. 11s. sterling, and 80 bolls of grain. The right of patronage is equally shared between the families of Cawdor and Kilravock. The district called Leys is so distant from the church, that, during the summer and autumn months, public worship is performed there every fourth Sunday, in the open air. The salary of the parochial school is 16 bolls of bear: the fees of education, and the perquisites of the office of session-clerk, make the whole establishment equal to L.22 sterling yearly. The Society for Christian Knowledge maintain also a school in the parish, with an appointment of L.10 sterling, besides the house, garden, fuel, and the maintenance of a cow, furnished by the proprietor and people. Both schools are flourishing and well attended. Except 4 of the Episcopalian persuasion, the whole of the people, amounting to 1552, appertain to the national church.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—It was in this parish, near the middle of the ridge of moorish ground on the side towards the river, that the decisive and important action of Culloden was achieved. After Prince Charles-Edward had fully ascertained the sentiments both of England and Wales to be adverse to his desperate attempt, and found himself duped in the support which had been so liberally promised by France and Spain, the councils of his adherent chiefs, distrusted by jealousy and dissension, were deeply marked by the infatuation of despair: for though presumption only could flatter them with the hope of success, and defeat must be attended by inevitable destruction, yet under the advantage of the terror and alarm which they had thrown over the capital, their suc-

cessful retreat almost from the environs of London, so wonderful in every circumstance, the resources which they still possessed, and the additional support which they might acquire, had they then sued for peace, and carried on at the same time the war, they would have obtained an amnesty for the whole of the common people, and easy terms for the less distinguished chiefs; and while they retained the command of several ports on both sides of the island, the Adventurer himself, and such as could not reasonably hope for pardon, might have easily retreated to an asylum on the Continent. This however they did not attempt. In the mean time royal forces thickened every-where around them; every district almost of the western Highlands (Inverness and Fort-Augustus excepted) was occupied by formidable detachments of adverse troops. The Duke of Cumberland arrived at Aberdeen about the end of February, and, having completed his magazines, commenced his march with the last division of his forces upon the 8th of April, and rendezvoused at Cullen with the whole army on the 11th. On the morning of the 12th, Major Gen. Huske, with the cavalry, a body of loyal Highlanders, 15 companies of grenadiers, and 2 field pieces, attended by the Duke himself, preceded the army to the banks of the Spey. The Duke of Perth, the Lords John Drummond, Kilmarnoch, and Balmerinoch, and Secretary Murray, had for some time taken up their quarters in the manse of Speymouth, on the other side of that river. The minister has left it on record, that though they used him civilly, and gave him no disturbance concerning his principles, yet it was expensive to him, and public worship was suspended during their sojourn there. 2000 men was the force under their command, able to have prevented the passage of the royal army, or to have defeated them when struggling with the power of the stream: but on their appearance on the southern bank, the rebels fled off towards Elgin, with the most unaccountable precipitation. The horse, sustained by the grenadiers and Highlanders, immediately passed over, but not with such expedition as to warrant a pursuit. The whole army thereafter forded the river, to the depth of their middles, and one grenadier and 4 women, borne down by its rapidity, were drowned. They encamped in the vicinity of the manse; and his Royal Highness, with a more cordial welcome, occupied the state bed, from which the Duke of Perth was dispossessed. Their march on Sunday the 13th reached

to the church of Alves: the encampment was formed on arable field, then green with the springing corn; the owner considered the crop to be destroyed, but it was found to have been thereby greatly improved. On the 14th they marched forward to the town of Nairn. The Duke entering into the 27th year of his age, they rested on the 15th, solemnizing the auspicious anniversary, and trimming their accoutrements and arms.

By this time the greater part of the rebel troops, from various quarters, under different chiefs, had rendezvoused with the Prince at Inverness. But instead of prudently retreating to the fastnesses of the mountains, which then afforded store of live cattle for provision, where their regiments would have been recruited, and their force augmented by a strong reinforcement of the Macphersons, then actually in full march to their aid, and where perhaps the disaster of Closťerseven might have by anticipation been prevented, they weakly drew out to meet their fate upon Drummoſſie moor, where they lay the whole night under arms; having very little provision: two bannocks of bread only to each man. And in the anxious expectation of the advance of the royal army, they waited in the order of battle the whole of the succeeding day; during which they were joined by 1400 men, under young Lovat, Keppoch, and Locheil. Having formed the weak purpose of surprising the Duke's army in the night of the birth-day solemnization, they marched eastward after sun-set in two columns: but then faint with hunger and fatigue, many were unable to come up; embarrassed by the length of the columns, they were obliged to make several halts; and many, overpowered with sleep, dropped off unperceived in the dark, and lay hid in the fields. And at the distance of 3 miles, it was found impossible to reach the Duke's army before the rising of the sun, and only then with half the number that had marched off the moor. Charles therefore was reluctantly prevailed upon to measure back his way to the ground first chosen for the battle, in which he was rejoined by the greater part of those who had straggled in the nocturnal march. Immediately on regaining their station, great numbers dispersed in quest of provision; and many, overpowered by fatigue, lay down to sleep on the heath. About 5 o'clock in the morning, the army began their march from Nairn, nearly 15 miles distant from the place of engagement: and the repose of the wearied clans was disturbed by the alarm of their approach. They formed

the order of battle with at least 1000 fewer than they had mustered on the preceding day: the front in 13 divisions, each clan under its respective chief, having 6 field pieces in the middle of the line; to support the front, were disposed Fitz-James's horse on the right, covered by the wall of an inclosure; 4 companies of French picquets composed the middle column; and on the left were 5 companies of Lord John Drummond's foot, and a body of horse composed of the Prince's guards: open to the centre of the foot was the young Adventurer and his body guards; and in his rear was the line of reserve.

The Duke's army formed in 2 lines also, and 3 regiments for the corps of reserve: the dragoons, under Hawley, were on the left flank, and Kingston's horse guarded the right; the artillery, consisting of 10 field pieces, were placed 2 in the centre of each regiment: so that some pieces were capable of flanking the enemy on whatever part of the line the impression might be made. The royal army consisted of 8811, and the other numbered 8350. About one o'clock afternoon the artillery of both parties opened: that of the rebels was ill served and inefficient, but the king's made dreadful havoc among them: which Lord George Murray, the leader of the right wing, perceiving, called on them to advance; and 500 charged the left wing with their usual impetuosity. Barrel's regiment and Monro's were yielding to the pressure of this column, when they were sustained by 2 battalions under Wolfe, advancing from the second line; by whose close fire great numbers fell, while the cannon continued to pour destruction with their cartridge shot. Meanwhile the dragoons, aided by the militia of Argyle, having opened passages in the dyke, broke in upon the right flank; while Kingston's horse, upon the left, met them in the centre, completing the confusion of the rebels: their rout in less than 30 minutes was final, and the field covered with the slain. The French picquets in their right covered their retreat for a little by a close and regular fire: then retiring to Inverness, they surrendered themselves prisoners of war. The road to that town was fireweld with the bodies of the dead. Many friends even, who had come to share the victory, were sacrificed in the undistinguishing exultation of the victors over the unresisting foe. An entire body of the rebels, however, marched off the field of battle, their pipes playing, and the standard of Charles displayed. On the succeeding day

2000 met on the road to Badenoch, and, after a little deliberation, finally dispersed.

In every instance of civil war, rapine, desolation, and murder, will be the cruel lot of numbers, though unresisting to either side. The moderation, however, of the rebels in the season of their success, considering their necessities, is deservedly worthy of the most distinguished praise: private property, save a trifling exaction at Manchester and Glasgow, remained inviolate in both their peregrinations from one end of the island almost to the other. Yet the objects of spoil were most tempting to undisciplined and needy adventurers; and their ideas of honesty and justice had impressed but faintly the virtue of forbearance and self-denial: and, save only in the rage of battle, they were extremely delicate and gentle respecting the effusion of blood. But with an extremely different measure was it meted to them in the day of their calamity. And notwithstanding the wickedness of their attempt to subvert our religion, liberty, and glorious constitution, it was not possible to regard the fallen sufferers without pity, without condemning the rigour of that vengeance to which the weak and submissive were doomed. The soldiers of the king, not contented with the blood which had been so profusely shed in the heat of action, traversed the field after the battle, and massacred those miserable wretches whom they found unresisting and maimed; some officers even, uninspired by sentiment, untinctured by humanity, bore a part in this cruel scene of assassination. But that day did not sate the vengeance of the loyal powers: In the month of May they advanced into the Highlands, and encamped at Fort Augustus, which had been lately by the rebels blown up; whence detachments were to every quarter sent off: the men, hunted down like wild beasts, were shot upon the mountains, or put to death in cold blood, without the form of trial; the women, having seen their fathers, brothers, and husbands murdered, subjected to violation, were turned out naked with their children to starve upon the barren hills; one whole family, shut up in a barn, were consumed to ashes; every house, hut, or habitation, was without distinction burned. So active and alert were those ministers of vengeance, that in a few days neither house nor cottage, man nor beast, was to be seen within the compass of 50 miles: all was ruin, silence, and desolation!

Yet jollity and glee alone resounded in the camp at Fort Augustus.

tus. Upwards of 2400 black cattle, with droves of sheep and goats, and troops of horses, were brought in—the plunder of the murdered peasants: and horse-racing among every rank and sex prevailed. His Royal Highness gave a holland smock for a prize: and the wives of the soldiers started on the bare-backs of garrans, riding, with their legs on each side, like the men. On the same coursers Hawley and Colonel Howard run a match for 20 guineas; and the first of these heroes, by 4 inches, won.

While these circumstances are recorded in the page of history, let each succeeding generation beware of fostering rebellion, or exciting insurrection, but only to obtain relief in situations that can be hardly rendered more calamitous.

The vanquished Adventurer, all his hope of a crown in one half hour dispelled, rode off the field with a few horsemen, accompanied by Lord Elcho and the Duke of Perth. Crossing the river Nairn, he retired to the house of a gentleman in Strath-herrick, and after a mournful conference with Lord Lovat, dismissing his followers, he wandered about, a wretched solitary fugitive, surrounded by armed enemies; chased from hill to dale, from wood to heath, and from shore to shore; lurking seldom in a cottage, sometimes in a cave, and frequently on the bare waste, without attendants, and without other support than what the poorest peasant could supply. Sometimes, assuming women's attire, he appeared a lady's maid; and sometimes, in the habit of a travelling mountaineer, with a wallet on his back: he was rowed in fisher boats from isle to isle among the Hebrides, passing through the midst of his enemies unknown, exposed to hunger, thirst, and weariness, to cold and wet, in continual peril: he trusted his life to the fidelity of more than 50 individuals, mostly in the lowest paths of fortune, and knowing that to betray him raised them at once to affluence and wealth, by the price of L.30,000 set upon his head; but they detested riches on such infamous terms, and they ministered to his necessities with the utmost fidelity and zeal, even at the hazard of their own destruction. Through the whole course of his distresses (which were such as hardly any other person ever outlived), he maintained the most amazing equanimity and good humour: never abandoned by his hope and recollection, he still found some expedient that saved him from captivity and death. At length, in the fifth month of his painful peril, he got on board a privateer of St. Malo: by means of

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a thick fog, he passed through Lestock's squadron, unseen, and arrived in safety at Roseau in Bretagne; his eye hollow, his visage wan, and his constitution greatly impaired by famine and fatigue. The history of his race, in every generation, loudly admonishes "all kings to be wise, and all judges of the earth to be instructed?" ever to govern with discretion, and with such care for the public weal, as may preserve the love of their subjects, and maintain their reign over people, happy because they feel themselves free.

There is little now to be seen on the field of battle: but it is still visited by many. The graves of those who fell are strikingly distinguishable by their verdant surface of grass rising through the brown surrounding heath. About 50 only of the army fell, of whom 6 were officers, one of them Lord Robert Ker: the number of the rebels who were killed in the action and in the pursuit has been computed at 2500. Bullets and fragments of armour, which are picked up by the people of the neighbourhood, are anxiously sought after, and preserved with care as curiosities, or as valuable relics.



## NUMBER XX.

## PARISH OF CALDER.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—CALDER, derived from the Gaelic DILL, wood, and DUR, water, is connected with Nairn on the north, and Croy on the south. It meets with Auldearn and Ardcleach at the east, and extends southward to the confines of Moy and Duffil. Its southern quarter is enlivened by the river Findern, and part of its northern side by that of the Nairn, to which the stream Calder, partly in a deep rocky channel, thickly shrouded with wood, a variety of forest trees, hastens from the west. The flat plain of the lower part of the parish, as it stretches southward, rises to a hilly tract, and elevates its boundary with Moy into a lofty mountain. The soil, in general neither wet nor deep, may be described as kindly, sharp and fertile, diversified in the lower part with spots of moorish and rocky ground; in the higher it is more generally brown heath, covering extensive tracts of the peat moors. The air is accounted remarkably salubrious.

State.

*State of Property.]*—The parish, chiefly in the county of Nairn, with a small part in that of Inverness, extends its total valuation to the sum of L.1963. 12s. Scots; of which the property of Lord Cawdor, comprehending Auchendune, Torrich, Inchgeddle, and Streens, amounts to the valuation of L.1565. 12s. 10d. This is the family seat and original residence of the ancient thanes. Similar to the mansion of Kilravock, a modern building has been conjoined to an ancient tower, built by royal licence in the year 1454, guarded on the west by the deep rocky defile of the stream of Cawdor, and surrounded on the other sides by a ditch and drawbridge. The environs, it has been noticed, as its name imports, are naturally embellished by the landscape scenery of wood and water; and they have been also improved by the decorations of art. In the lowest vault of the tower, the trunk of a hawthorn tree still stands in the original station where it grew out of the rock; over which tradition relates that a dream, directing the situation of the fabric, promised prosperity to the race whilst it should remain.

The lands of Clunes and Torbey, mortgaged to Dr. Campbell, are valued at L.114. 7s. 2d. to which the valuation of his estate of Budzeat, in the county of Inverness, of L.160 Scots, is also to be added. Mr. Rose of Holm has Drumurnie, valued in the whole at L.123. 12s. of which a part, amounting to L.50, appertains to the county of Inverness. The real rent may be at present estimated about L.1200 sterling, arising from about 4500 cultivated acres, rented from 2s. 6d. to 15s. the acre; to these are conjoined about 3500 under wood, broom, and natural pasturage; the remainder is moor and mountain peat, about 18000. The extent of the farms are from 40 to 100 acres: and about 70 ploughs are employed in their cultivation.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The old name of the parish was *Borivon*, properly Bar Ewan: literally denoting *Ewan's height*, or high country; and figuratively, *excellent*, or St. Ewan, to whom the parsonage was dedicated. The church originally stood in the southern highest quarter of the parish, till about the year 1619: and 30 years after it was moved into its present central station, a wing from the parish of Auldearn was annexed at the east. The value of the living, including 20 bolls of bear and 20 of meal, is equal to L.80 sterling. The right of patronage appertains to Lord Cawdor. The salary of the school is 8 bolls of bear and 8 of meal, and L.1. 5s. as the cler

of the session, with the official perquisites, and the dues of education from about 50 scholars, the mean number through the year. The poor upon the roll amount to 40, and the provision for their necessities about L.12 yearly, arising from the contribution of 850 persons, the members of the national Church; there being only one Episcopalian, and one Seceder in the parish.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people, in general, are humane, moral, and religious, there being few law suits or quarrels among them; they are very industrious; they dispose of a considerable quantity of victual at Inverness, Nairn, and Fort George, where their fat cattle and sheep are likewise sold; they discover no propensity for the military life, in which, or in the navy, very few engage; they are contented with their situation, and discover no desire to leave the parish, although every other year a few lads, as adventurers, apprentices or servants, seek their fortunes in Edinburgh, London, or America; they complain of the uncertainty of their leases; and they are troubled by the caprice, wantonness, and extravagance of the farm servants.

NUMBER XXI.

PARISH OF ARDCLACK.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THE parish of Ardclach, denoting in the Gaelic *high stony ground*, occupies a considerable space of the southern border of the county of Nairn. It is intersected, for the greater part of its length, by the river Findern, which, at its eastern corner, divides it from Edinkielie; and it meets with the parish of Duthel in the southern mountains. The parish is a hilly district, furnishing little other pasture but what is produced with the heath. There is however a considerable extent of wood, birch, hazle, and ash, fir, alder, and oak. The soil is shallow, on a hard gravelly sole, and much encumbered with stone. Although the air is supposed to be healthy, yet the people, young and old, are peculiarly subject to the erysipelas. Still many have surpassed the 70th, and a few the 80th year of their age.

*State of Property.*]—The valued rent, amounting to L. 2358. 1s. 5d.

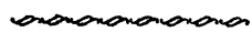
5d. Scots, is shared among 4 proprietors. On the estate of Miss Brodie of Lethin is a handsome mansion-house, at Culemone, with gardens, plantations, and inclosed fields. The valued rent is L.1708. 11s. 5d. Charles Gordon of Braid Esq. has the lands of Mid Flaness, valued at L.182. 10s. 8d. Colonel Cuming Gordon of Altyr has Glenernie and Craigroy, at L.185.; and Lord Cawdor, Boath, Benehar, and Keppernach, at L.311. 19s. 4d.

The farms are in general but of small extent. The mode of cultivation which was introduced into this kingdom by the Roman Catholic clergy, long before the reformation of religion, still remains unreformed. A small ill-formed plough, drawn by 4 cattle and 4 horses, or by 6 cattle and 2 horses, produces about the third return of bear, rye, and oats, chiefly of the small black hairy kind, besides a plot of each farm in potatoe. The whole arable land is supposed to be comprised in 2000 acres. The real rent in the year 1786 was proved, in a law-suit for an augmentation of the stipend, to be L.543. 8s. 5d. sterl. and 283 bolls of victual: but the sole dependence of the people is on their cattle; and having no leases, they feel no permanent nor steady interest in the soil. The number of black cattle is about 1000, that of sheep 2000, and 300 horses.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—During the Roman Catholic dispensation, there was no fixed pastor in Ardclach. It was not a parish by itself till about the year 1638, when it was disjoined from Edinkie-lic, and Donald Macpherson then ordained its first minister. The stipend at present is L.55. 16s. 9d. and 31 bolls 3 firlots and 3 pecks of oatmeal. The glebe is nearly 5 acres, and a little natural pasturage. The right of patronage appertains to Miss Brodie of Lethin. The salary of the parochial school is L.10 sterl: the number of scholars nearly 40. The Society for Christian Knowledge support a school in the extremity of the parish, where the same number of scholars attend. The Society have also joined Miss Brodie in supporting a spinning-school, making its establishment between them equal to L.10 sterl. There is no other fund for the poor, who amount to 34 upon the roll, but the contributions of their neighbours at their meetings for public worship, about L.4 sterl in the year. The whole of the parishioners are members of the national Church, 1186 souls.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—There is a considerable quantity of woolen cloth called *plaiden*, and a coarse tartan, a kind of broad

broad cloth, and a small quantity of duffle, made for sale in the families of the tenants; and wool has sold as high as 18s. the stone. Part of the ash, birch, and alder timber is also wrought into implements of husbandry. Many emigrated to the other side of the globe, before the breaking out of the American war.



### PRESBYTERY OF INVERNESS.

#### NUMBER XXII.

### PARISH OF MOY AND DALAROSSIE.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THIS parish, comprehending the sources of the Findern, conjoins with Ardclach and Calder on the south and south-west. Its greatest length along the course of the river is nearly 30 miles: its mean breadth is about 5. The country is barren, bleak, and mountainous. The cultivated ground, in narrow stripes or small plots on the banks of the river, exceeds not the fiftieth part of the parish. The principal source of the Findern, at the distance of 50 miles from its termination, is a copious stream issuing from the fissure of a great rock called the *Cloven Stone*. The Gaelic name of the river is the *UISGERN*; and, from the length of its course between high mountains in this parish, it is called *STRATH-ARN*: although, from a narrow pass towards Inverness, by which, in the honest times of our more godly ancestors, inroads were made into the low country, and where a few could stop pursuit, its ancient name was *STAR-SACH-NA-GAUL*, *the threshold of the Highlanders*. This pass was found then so convenient for the more remote banditti of Badenach and Strathspey, that, for the free use of it, they agreed to pay the proprietor a tithe of the spoil: the peculiar Gaelic epithet of this honourable acquirement is impressively remembered, signifying *the collop of the prey*, which consisted briefly in cattle. After the district was cleared of wood, and partly cultivated, it obtained the softer appellation of *MOY*, denoting *the plain*: the greater part of the district under this appellation is a valley, detached in a direction north-west from the course of the river, which itself stretches up towards the south-west. The modern

name of the other district signifies *the valley of Fergus*. The soil of the cultivated ground is for the most part of a very good quality, but the climate is much colder than that of the neighbouring parishes, and the crops later. The snow in general begins to fall by the middle of November, and frequently continues till March or April; but the inhabitants are healthy, and several have attained nearly to the age of 90 years.

*State of Property.*]—Moyhall, the family seat of Aeneas Mackintosh of Mackintosh, the chieftain of the clan, is valued with the lands of Suffin at L.674. 13s. 4d. Dr. James Mackintosh of Kylachy, the author of the *Vindiciae Gal.* inherits Easter Banchar and Wester Strathnoon, valued at L.510. 6s. 8d. William Mackintosh of Balnepsie has Easter Strathnoon and Muckle Corrybrugh, at L.276. 13s. 4d. Lachlan Mackintosh holds Raigmore, valued at L.90. William Mackintosh of Aberairder has Invermasron, at L.53. 6s. 8d. John Mackintosh possesses Dalmigvie, at L.79. 10s. Angus Mackintosh of Holm inherits Frae, at L.46. 13s. 4d. Du-gald Macqueen holds Pollockchak, at L.50: and Lachlan Macpher-son has West Banchar, at L.50: extending the whole valuation of the parish to the sum of L.2142. 10s.

The real rent is about L.1000 sterling. Pasturage is the important object. The farms, though of considerable extent, are for the most part let from L.5 to L.10 of rent: their number is counted about 200. Besides the money rent, each tenant is burdened with the payment of wedders, fowls, eggs, and other articles, and much labour in the digging and carriage of fuel, in reaping the corn, and in carriages to and from distant parts of the country: all which, though noway perceived in the revenue of the proprietor, most effectually check the improvement of the country, and mar all calculation of the value of land. The shortness of the labouring season requires 246 ploughs, each in general drawn by 4 horses, to which 2 oxen are in some cases added. The number of horses is about 900, black cattle 1800, and sheep 12,000. The rents are paid, and such necessaries as the farms do not produce, are provided by the yearly sale of part of the live stock.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—It has been already noticed, that the presbytery of Inverness was established a separate judicature in the year 1708, into which, in the arrangement of this undertaking, this parish falls to be the first.

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Although Moy and Dalarossie in some respects are unconnected, each having its own church, they have been under the charge of one pastor since the times of popery. The residence is in Moy, but part of the glebe is 9 miles distant, at the church of Dalarossie. The stipend is L.69. 14s. 2d. sterling. The right of patronage appertains to the family of Kilravock. The salary of the school is L.8. 6s. 8d. and L.2. 10s. as the fee of the session-clerk, which, with the other emoluments, makes the whole establishment about L.20 yearly. The poor in general do something for their own support: the annual fund raised, as in the neighbouring parishes, is about L.5 sterling. Many depend on begging for their maintenance. There are a few of the inhabitants of the Episcopalian persuasion; but as the whole perform the duties of public worship in the parish church, they may be all accounted of the national establishment: their number amounts to 1813 souls.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—In their sentiments the people are extremely wedded to prejudice, and in their manners to old custom. They may perhaps be religious; but it is certain that in one case they preferred sacrifice to mercy. The language, dress, and most of the peculiarities of the ancient Highlanders, continue without alteration: their houses are of the same construction with those of their predecessors for many generations, the fire-place near the middle, and the family seated around it. In the stormy season of winter, the severity of the weather arrests all industry in the field: the care of their cattle is almost their only occupation. In the spring, their exertions are great and unremitting till the seed-time is over; in the harvest, they are equally diligent in securing their crop before the winter sets in; and the great labour in summer consists in providing the stock of fuel.

The lake of Moy is somewhat more than a mile in length, and rather less than one in breadth. It abounds in char, and a variety of other trout of various size and colour. Near its middle is an island, about 2 acres in extent, nearly in the shape of a violin: on its southern end are the ruins of ancient buildings, of considerable extent: the remains of a street, the whole length of the island, and the foundations of houses on each side, are readily distinguishable. In the year 1762, two ovens were discovered, each capable of baking 150 lb. avoirdupois of meal. In the year 1422 it contained a garrison of 400 men, and here the chief of Mackintosh resided,

resided, except during the winter, when the country was inaccessible. The walls of a more modern building remain pretty entire: an inscription over the gate imports, that it was built in 1665 by Lachlan, the 20th chieftain of the clan. The garden, stocked with fruit trees and bushes, is still in cultivation.

At the distance of several hundred yards, is another small island, formed by the accumulation of common rounded stone. It was the prison, when the punishment of malefactors was vested in the chiefs. The miserable prisoner could scarcely stand with dry feet when the lake was at the lowest; but in the season of rain, if the surface was then no higher than now, the water rose nearly to its middle; but within the space of 24 hours he was condemned or set free. Near the north end of the lake, there is a chalybeate spring, accounted medicinal for head-aches and disorders in the stomach. There is a considerable extent of natural wood, chiefly birch and alder, upon the banks of the Findern.

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NUMBER XXIII.

*PARISH OF DAVIOT AND DUNLIGHTY.*

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE river Nairn winds east-ward from its sources for the length of 23 miles through this parish. The cultivated grounds extend from about 2 to nearly 4 miles in breadth. The name of *Daviot* is believed to have been given to the smaller district in honour of David Earl of Crawford, once its proprietor; who built a fortress, lately razed for the lime-rubbish as manure. The other name in Gaelic is *DUN-LE-CHATTA*, *the hill of the clan Chattan*. This ancient tribe, under the various surnames of Mackintosh, the chief, Macgillivray, Macpherson, Macbean, Shaw, Smith, and Gow, continue in the possession of an extensive tract upon either side of this hill; which yet bears upon its summit the tokens of having been the rendezvous, and the place whence the signals were made, as the exigencies of remote times required. The church of this district stands near its bottom: that of the other a few miles to the north-west of Moy. The appearance of the country is not inviting: where the hills are not covered with heath, “on which

no tree is seen," they are naked rock; while large tracts of peat morass, or barren moor, deform the vales below. Among the mountains there are several lakes: that of Dundlechak is of the most consideration; it discharges one of the branches of the river; it is very deep; it is the lake which never freezes in winter, by the most intense and longest frost: but in a calm night during the spring, it is readily frozen over in the space only of one night. The lake of Ruthven, though about half the extent of the other, being 3 miles in length, and nearly one in breadth, is vastly its superior in the estimation of the angler; there is no pike in it, but it is well stocked with trout, of the Lochleven kind, similar to salmon when dressed; 4 or 5 dozen, from 3 to 8 lb. are at times caught in the space of two hours: and one or two boats are kept on the lake for the purpose only of fishing. Westward for some miles from the church of Dunlighty, the hills are chiefly composed of rock; and almost every-where along their base innumerable fragments, of enormous bulk, appearing to have been violently severed from their parent cliffs, exhibit the most satisfactory proof that earthquakes have been more frequent and more dreadful in this quarter of the island than either tradition or history records. Near the church of Daviot, and for some miles above it on both sides of the river, there is a natural object of another kind more striking still: the ground is more than 300 feet of perpendicular height above the level of the Frith; it nevertheless presents a great many sand hills, which evidently appear to have been formed by the current of contrary tides, under the flux and reflux of the ocean. At that period, not only this island, but the greater part of Europe, must have been the bottom of the sea, probably during the antideluvian æra; or in that more early period when "the Spirit of God moved " upon the face of the waters, before he divided the waters which "were under the firmament from those which were above it."

In some places the soil is sandy and light; in others it is spongy and wet, incumbent on clay; there are also tracts where it is black, of the quality of peat earth; and in many places all these kinds are compounded together. A considerable proportion of the soil is, however, fertile, and capable of producing pretty plentiful crops: but the climate is variable and unpropitious; and oftentimes the whole labour and hope of the year is blasted in one night or morn-  
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ing in the months of August or September, by the mildew frost, to which the best and lowest fields are most exposed.

*State of Property.]*—In its political circumstances, the parish is placed in the counties of Nairn and Inverness. It is at present the inheritance of 8 proprietors. John Macgillivray of Dunmaglass Esq. has the valuation of L.400 Scots in the county of Nairn, and L.486 in that of Inverness. David Davidson of Cantray Esq. holds a valuation of L.226. 6s. 8d. Captain Macpherson of Invereshie has a valuation of L.56. 13s. 4d. Æneas Mackintosh of Mackintosh Esq. has the property of Daviot, at L.448. William Mackintosh of Culclachy, L.313. 10s. Captain Mackintosh of Aberairder, L.694. 6s. 8d. James Mackintosh of Far, L.200. And Arthur Forbes of Culloden, L.108. 6s. 8d. extending the whole valuation of the parish to the sum of L.2933. 6s. 8d. At the family seats of Dunmaglass and Far, the improvement of draining, enclosing, and planting, has been for sometime carried on with propriety and success. The state of agriculture is in extreme backwardness: the small black hairy oats and rye are the principal crops: common oats and barley succeed but in few places, and frequently misgive. The quantities of land are denominated *da-vuchs, ploughs, and aughteen parts*: they were at first ascertained with regard to the quality, rather than to the extent; and as, in several cases, the quality has been since improved, these denominations now appear arbitrary and uncertain. Few tenants occupy more than one aughteen part, the rent of which is from L.3 to L.5, besides a variety of services exacted by the landlords, both in seed time and harvest—so flagrantly detrimental to all improvement, that of late some of the proprietors begin to discover that the practice of the landlords in the highest cultivated districts of the kingdom is more wise than theirs; that they will become more respectable by having their revenue wholly in money, ascertained by the number of the acres on their estates; having their tenants in other respects entirely independent, and hiring farm servants sufficient for the cultivation of the lands in their own occupation. Of late the black-faced sheep have been introduced into the higher parts of the district of Dunlighty; and they do not appear to suffer from the climate: the mean value is 9s. each, and the number about 2000. The common cross-breeds are double that number, and their mean value:

value about 5s. each. The number of black cattle have been diminished by increasing the number of the sheep; they still count to about 1300, and their mean value about £.2 each. Horses are generally used in the cultivation of the land: they are of small size; their number about 800; and their mean value about £.2. 10s.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The parishes of Daviot and Dunlighty were united about the year 1618. The residence is at Daviot, at the distance of 7 miles from the church of Dunlighty, where public worship is performed every alternate Sunday. The stipend is £.77. 6s. sterling, with a small glebe, detached in parts as in the original parishes. The right of patronage appertains to Lord Cawdor. The appointment of the school-master, including the emoluments of the office of session clerk, is about £.12. The number of the poor is nearly 46: and the funds for their provision, raised in the common form, and augmented by an endowment of £.36, bearing interest, exceeds not £.5 yearly. The members of the national Church are 1265: and there are 430 of the communion of the Episcopalian Church of Scotland, who have a chapel for themselves in the parish, but can only afford to have public worship there once in 3 or 4 Sundays: during the interval they assemble with their neighbours in the parish church. There are two Seceders of less liberality of sentiment.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—The people are devout and regular in their profession of religion, disposed to rest somewhat on external forms, which, however, does not appear to have any bad effect on their morals; although in some of the less essential duties they are not wholly pure. They have however a sense of shame and honour, in a high degree for their station. They are frugal; and they would be industrious, if the climate and other particular circumstances offered the same excitements which happier situations possess. There are about 60 young men who migrate southwards for employment during the seasons of spring, summer, and harvest: but by this means they have not generally increased their stock. They have introduced expensive dress and other luxuries among the labouring class; they have also raised the price of labour at home; and they live through the winter a burden on the common stock of their families. The gentlemen of the country want not encouragements, in its own improvement, sufficient to retain them at home, and which would greatly redound to their mutual advantage;

tage: for this end they must no doubt place their tenants in the same situation as to ease and independence with those in the south, who can thus afford to abstract the labour of the north. By this means also, the industry of a great part of the people who live within 4 or 6 miles of Inverness would be in a short time directed into a more profitable channel, both for landlord and tenant, than that in which it presently runs; namely, in preparing peat and turf fuel, and carrying it to the markets of the town, which is regularly continued twice in every week round the whole year, not excepting either spring or harvest. About Daviot there is lime-stone rock in the bed and banks of the river: it contains a great many small metallic cubes, not exceeding the fourth of an inch, consisting of a great proportion of lead, and of that colour. There are a considerable number of weavers employed in making coarse woolen stuff. The other artizans only accommodate the country: for which there are also 1 fulling and 14 corn-mills.



## NUMBER XXIV.

## PARISH OF DURRIS.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THIS parish extends along the river and lake of Ness, from the borders of the parish of Inverness, about 20 miles, to that of Boleskin. Its Gaelic name, DAR-UISH, awkwardly expresses its situation, signifying *water of water—the river of or from the lake*. Its eastern side borders with Daviot and Dungleighty, and its breadth is nearly 4 miles. It may in general be regarded as a valley, between mountains upon the south and north. By this situation, the winds are for the greater part from the west or the east; and in dry summers, did not heavy dews commonly fall during the night of a warm day, the corn and grass would be quite parched. The soil is generally light: in some parts of the higher grounds it is the best; and in seasons free of frost or very frequent rains, it is very productive. The air is esteemed salubrious. The lake of Dandlechak, mentioned in No. XXIII. as well as that of Lochness, is partly within the bounds of this parish.

*State of Property.*]—The parish is shared among 8 proprietors.

Mr.

Mr. Fraser Tytler, advocate, has Balnain, at the valuation of £.880. 6s. 8d. Alexander Fraser of Dell Esq. has the valuation of £.90. 10s. 10d. James Fraser of Gortuleg Esq. writer to the signet, that of £.59. 18s. 1d. Simon Fraser of Farralin Esq. £.59. 16s. Simon Fraser Esq. of Coleman street, London, £.533. 6s. 8d. The valuation of the Lovat estate in this parish is £.392. 9s. 5d. *Æ*neas Mackintosh of Mackintosh Esq. holds the valuation of £.90. and David Davidson of Cantray Esq. that of £.73. 15s. extending the total valuation of the parish to £.2180. 2s. 8d.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church and manse are situated towards the middle of the parish, upon the end of the lake of Nefs, near where it begins to discharge the river. The stipend is £.40 sterling, 24 bolls of barley, and 24 bolls of oatmeal. The right of patronage appertains to Lord Cawdor. The school is not flourishing: the salary is £.5. 11s. and the number of scholars about 20. The poor amount to the number of 60: about £.4 yearly is contributed by the people in their assemblies for public worship; to which there is the farther provision of the interest of £.70, bequeathed by gentlemen once landholders of the parish. The number of the people amounts to 1365, of whom a very small proportion are distinguished as Dissenters.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—The memorial of the thraldom and incursions of the Danes is still preserved in this country, as well as on the coast of Moray. About 3 miles inward from the lake of Nefs, the vestiges of a fortress, known by the appellation of CHASTAL DUN RI-CHUAN, *the strong castle of the King of the Ocean*, reminds us, that Britannia did not always rule the waves, but that the kings of Norway and Denmark once assumed the title of the masters of the sea; and suggests the humbling speculation of the rank we should now hold among nations, were times such as these to return. Yet these were the times when the heroes of Morven moved in their strength; when the king of Selma shone in the brightest robe of renown. Their tombs still rise on the heath: their fame still rests on the stones. Here fought the father of Ossian; and here fell the son of the Norwegian king. Many piles of stone mark the dark dwellings of the slain: one larger than the rest together, rises over their youthful chief: his name, *Afhee*, transferred to the adjoining hill, is still recognized in *Drumashie*; and *SHEIRE FIANN*, *the chair of Fingal*, is shown as the seat of that

hero, when the roar of battle ceased, along the heath, when he retired from the strife of the field.

About 9 miles from Dun-Ri-Chuan, another fortress, *Dundaradel*, is recognized as one of that chain of strong holds, which the state of society then required, for transmitting telegraphic signals from the one shore to the other along this great vale, from the German ocean at Inverness to the Atlantic at Fort William.

The people now, with very few exceptions, live in peaceful industry. The deer and roe still bound over the desert, and herd in the extensive plantations of fir, in which the lower part of the parish is clothed. But oats, barley, and potatoe, are the principal productions of the soil: upon the last of these, the poorer class in a great measure depend for their frugal subsistence,

#### NUMBER XXV.

#### P ARISH O F P E T T Y.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—A circuit up into the mountain, and back again to the shore, through 6 parishes, has made no advance in the course towards the west; for the parish of Petty lies next to Airdersier, in a progress up the Frith from the east: it extends 8 miles along the shore, and inland for about the half of that extent. The face of the country is nearly level, containing large tracts of cultivated field; where it rises gently into the mountain, they are separated by brooks, which in some places fall over the rocks in natural cascades: and, besides tufts of trees almost at every farmhouse, the Earl of Moray's plantations of fir, and oak, and other forest trees, in different places, have clothed more than 500 acres, which about 20 years ago were bleak and barren heath. The soil, in part, is a fertile black mould: but the greater proportion of it is sandy and light; yet capable of being cultivated to good account by grass seed and the other green crops. Although the ground is rather flat, there are no marshes nor stagnate water. The air is generally serene, and the climate dry; the crops being frequently damaged by drought in the summer months.

*State of Property.*]—The parish, in the sheriffdom of Inverness, except

except a small spot in the county of Nairn, is possessed by 4 proprietors; of whom the Earl of Moray has the valued rent of £.2423. 10s. Arthur Forbes of Culloden Esq. £.441. 15s. James Rose of Brea Esq. £.157. 3s. And Lord Cawdor £.120: extending the valued rent of the parish to the sum of £.3142. 8s.

Castle-Stewart, a large old building on the Earl of Moray's property, has been for many years uninhabitable: it is surrounded by an extensive grove, which shelters a spacious garden and orchard, distinguished by varieties of strawberry, and a species of small cherry, the black and red geen, transplanted from Kent about a century ago by Alexander Earl of Moray.

The number of farmers is not less than 90; of whom 3 or 4 pay from £.60 to £.100 of rent; the greater part only vary from £.20 to £.25: there are several below £.10. And besides these, a number of still smaller tenants are planted as improvers of waste ground; with cottagers, who are labourers and mechanics; and as many fishers as man 3 boats. The greater part of the land is let from 12s. to 14s. the acre, some of the best as high as £.1. and some as low as 5s.; making the mean rent about 14s. the acre.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church is inconveniently placed on a spot almost detached from the parish, near the manse, on an eminence rising from the head of a small bay which sets in from the Frith. The stipend is £.30 sterling, and 78 bolls of barley and meal. The glebe is about 10 acres of poor light soil. The Earl of Moray holds the right of patronage. The school is in a pretty central situation, about half a mile from the church. The salary is 12 bolls of oat-meal, collected in small but various proportions from among all the tenants. The scholars are numerous: but with the fees, and official perquisites as session clerk, the whole appointment exceeds not £.20 sterling yearly. The poor are not numerous, owing to the great and increasing scarcity of fuel: but the country is much infested with beggar vagabonds from other parishes. The provision for the parochial poor is contributed in the assemblies of public worship: it amounts to about £.6 yearly. The number of inhabitants is 1518, of which a few are Dissenters of the Antiburgher Sect.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—The inhabitants are sober, industrious, and peaceable. They have frequent convivial meetings, where, after spending some hours cheerfully, they part in a friendly manner.

manner. Drinking to excess and quarreling are accounted reproachful, and those addicted to these are avoided. They show attachments to old fashions: the plaid is the only part of the highland dress which is generally laid aside: but the women have adopted more of the dress of their sex in the low country than the men. About 40 years ago there were oysters in this part of the Frith: but, one small spot excepted, they are now entirely gone. The water is shallow near the shore: and the sea retires to a great distance. There are places where a commodious harbour for the smaller vessels might be made at little expence. There are 4 corn mills in the parish: one is turned by the flux and reflux of the tide. There are 2 earthen mounts near the church, evidently artificial; they are composed of sand enclosed in a cover of sod, exactly circular, contracted gradually from the base, 150 feet in circumference, to the top, only 120, perfectly level at the height of 42 feet: their name, *TOM MHOIT, the court hill*, imports they were intended for the administration of justice.

*monotonous*

NUMBER XXVI.

*P A R I S H O F I N V E R N E S S.*

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—This parish extends westward along the Frith, from Petty to Kirkhill, about 8 miles. It is intersected by the river Ness. Upon the southern side it extends up the river to Durris; and on the other to the parish of Urquhart, about 6 miles. In some places the country is level; in others rocky and mountainous. The soil, with some exceptions, is a black light fertile loam. The climate is early: the air healthful and dry.

*State of Property.]*—Exclusive of the burgh lands, and the property of the community, the parish is possessed by 19 landholders. There are among them several handsome family seats and showy villas. Culloden-house, the family seat of Arthur Forbes Esq. about 3 miles eastward from the town, is a magnificent structure, on a broad plain, extended from the Frith to the mountain, embellished by large plantations, fertile enclosures, gardens, and ornamented ground: the valued rent is L.457. 18s. Scots. Dochfour,

the

the property of Alexander Baillie Esq. is valued at L.566. 13s. 4d. Inches, the property of Arthur Robertson Esq. at L.383. 6s. 8d. Dunain, the inheritance of Colonel John Baillie, at L.320. 10s. Torbreak, the estate of Alexander Fraser Esq. at L.325. 6s. 8d. Muirtown, the property of Hugh Robert Duff Esq. L.266. 13s. 4d. Culduthel, appertaining to Colonel James Frazer, at L.305. 8s. Holm, belonging to Angus Mackintosh Esq. at L.103. 10s. Dochgarroch, the property of —— Macbean Esq. valued at L.150. Castlehill, the estate of Lewis Cuthbert Esq. at L.168. David Davidson of Cantray Esq. holds a valuation of L.200. Æneas Mackintosh of Mackintosh Esq. possesses Eſſich, at L.100. And Sir James Grant of Grant Bart. has a valuation of L.120: extending the total valuation of the country part of the parish to the sum of L.3566. 18s. The rents of the more considerable farms are from L.40 to L.300: and the smaller tenants are gradually wearing away. The whole extent of the arable acres may be estimated at 5000; varying in value from 13s. to L.2; and garden ground near the town brings from L.4 to L.5 the acre. The horses in the parish are numbered about 600: the black cattle and sheep, of each about 1000. There are 13 meal mills, 3 flour, and 2 barley mills. The salmon fishery on the river Nefs begins on the 30th of November, and ends on the 18th of September: it has been let by the whole proprietors for almost 40 years to the Berwick Fishing Company, at the rent of L.330 yearly; upon the renewal of the lease, now almost expired, it is supposed the rent will rise to double that sum. About 350 barrels may be the yearly produce disposed of in the London market, as noticed in the fishery of Spey, and in the trade of Findhorn. The trouts of 4 or 5 lb. some reaching to nearly 12 lb. are sold in town and country at 3d. per lb. The cheſts, or cruiſes, and dykes, are formed where the river is divided by an island, prettily wooded by young plantation, at a little distance above the town.

The burgh is situated on the southern bank of the river, almost at its influx into the Frith, with a considerable suburbs on the other side, connected by a magnificent bridge of 7 stately arches. The body of the town, which at present may be said to be new built, consists of two principal streets, crossing each other from south to north, and from east to west. The public buildings, the town-house, court-house, and jail, are placed nearly where the streets

intersect

intersect each other. The churches are at the north end of the town, upon the bank of the river. The last charter is granted by James VI. before his accession to the crown of England. After ratifying and confirming all charters, rights, and privileges, granted by William, Alexander, David, James I. James V. and Queen Mary, " of new grants, and in perpetual feu confirms, to the Pro-  
" vost and magistracy, the land of Drakies, and the forest thereof;  
" the lands of Markinch, with the pasturage thereof, with the parks  
" and woods; likewise the lands called Barnhills, Claypots, Mill  
" and Millfields, the Carse and Cairn Laws, with the common  
" moor of the said burgh; likewise the water of Ness on both fides,  
" from Clach-na-gaich to the sea; with all fishings, ports, havens,  
" creeks, the still-fishing, the red pool; with power to begin to fish  
" on the said water with boats and nets on the 10th of November  
" yearly, and to use cruives and water chests; with the ferry of  
" Kessok and the right of ferrying on both fides: farther, all the  
" mills called the king's mills, the suken and multures thereof,  
" with the astricted and dry multures of the Castle lands: and all  
" corns which have or shall receive fire or water within the parish  
" of Inverness, as well out-suken as in-suken, to pay multure and  
" knaveship at the said mills; with power and liberty of pasture,  
" peats, foggage, turf, in all places used and wont, and particularly  
" in Craig Phadrick, Capulach moor, Daviemont and Bogbain;  
" with power of ferrying on Lochness. With markets weekly on  
" Wednesday and Saturday; and 8 free fairs in the year, on July 7,  
" August 14; in September, Roodmasts; on November 10, Mar-  
" tinmasts; in December, St. Thomas's fair; on February 1, Peter's  
" fair; and on April the 25, St. Mark's fair. With the petty  
" customs of all cities, towns, and villages, within the shire, and  
" particularly of the colleges of Tain in Ross, Markinch, Chan-  
" onry, Dornoch, Thurso, and Wick in Caithness, to be applied  
" to the public good of Inverness. That no ship break bulk be-  
" tween Tarbetness and Inverness: and our said burgh shall have  
" coroners and sheriffs within themselves, and a Guildry; with a  
" Dean of Guild: that there be but one tavern: that no one in  
" the shire make cloth but burgeesses: with power to make statutes  
" and rules for the burgh."

The revenue of the community, arising from the feu duties and customs of the burgh, with a trifling toll for keeping the bridge in repair,

repair, without any connection with the towns and villages in their charter, does not much exceed the sum of L.300 yearly.

The magistracy consists of the Provost, 4 Baillies, the Treasurer, the Dean of Guild, the Deacon Convener, representing the 6 incorporations, 10 Merchant Counsellors, and 3 Deacons of the trades; in all 21. They have a Clerk and Clerk Depute. The old Council elect the new at Michaelmas yearly; who then, out of their number, elect the Provost, though he is generally continued for 3 years: the Baillies, Dean of Guild, and Treasurer, are generally for 2 years. The 6 incorporations are, the weavers, taylors, shoemakers, skinners; the wrights, including house-carpenters, cabinet-makers, wheel-wrights, and coopers; the hammermen, including smiths, tin-smiths, copper-smiths, silver-smiths, watch-makers, braziers, cutlers, and saddlers. The other crafts of masons, cartwrights, bakers, butchers, and barbers, are not incorporate.

To the detail of the commerce in No. x. at the port of Findhorn, it is only necessary here to add, that the harbour is commodious and safe, and kept in due repair. Seven vessels belong to it, measuring nearly 500 tons, and navigated by about 30 seamen, including apprentices. There are 9 fishing boats, each managed by 6 men, catching the same kinds of fish which have been mentioned as the tenants of the Frith, with an occasional visit of the herrings and a few sprats.

About the year 1763, a manufacture was established of hemp into cloth, for tarpawling, sacking, and bags, for the consumpt of Britain and both the Indies, employing above 1000 men, women, and children. They earn from 1s. to 10s. in the week. The hemp is imported from the Baltic.

A manufacture likewise of white and coloured thread was established about the year 1782: the flax also imported from the Baltic. This busines in like manner employs about 1000 men, women, and young people, in the progressive operation of heckling, spinning, twisting, bleaching, and dyeing. They earn from 1s. 6d. to 2s. in the week. The Company have 16 agents in different parts of the country around, employed as managers of the spinning department. The threads are sent to London, to be dispersed over the world.

There are two tanneries and one tawing work carried on. The tanned leather is consumed at home: the white is sent to London.

There are also two tallow-chandlers, and a soap-boiler, a brick-work, and a bleachery, and nearly a dozen of brewers of ale for sale..

It may be inferred from the laws of David I. collected in the *Reg. Mag. b. i. ch. 16.* that the office of sheriff had been established previous to the middle of the 11th century, and in that period that there was but one sheriff northward of the Grampian mountains, and his station at Inverness. The purport of the law requires the sheriff to aid any person accused of theft, in apprehending the man, from whom he might allege he had purchased the stolen article: " Gif ane dwells bezond Drumalbin, in Moray, Ross, Caithness, Argyle, or in Kintyre, he fall have 15 days, and also ane month, to produce his warrant before the schiref: and gif he goes for his warrant dweland in Moray, or in Ross, or in anie other of the stcids or places pertaining to Moray, and can nocht find, or apprehend his warrant, he fall pass to the schiref of Inverness, and the schiref fall send with him the King's servants, quha fall see that he be righteouslie treated and handled, conform to the law of the land."

It hath been seen in No. vi. that the Hon. Archibald Douglas was sheriff of Moray in the year 1369, and that Robert Hay, sheriff of Inverness, assumed the prerogative of judging along with him at Elgin, in a question respecting the multures of the lands of Quarrywood. Gilbert de Rule, knight, is found, however, by the charterulary of Moray, to have been sheriff of Moray as early as the year 1263; but it was not before 1661 that the boundary of the sheriffdom of Inverness with that of Ross was particularly fixed. In the 6th Parl. of James VI. in the year 1503, it is ordained, " that the justices and sheriffs of the north isles have their place in Inverness or Dingwall; that Mamore and Lochaber come to the justice court of Inverness; and because the sheriffdom of Inverness is too great, that there be a sheriff made of Ross, who shall have full jurisdiction, and shall sit at Tain or Dingwall; and that there be a sheriff at Caithness, who shall have jurisdiction of the haill diocese of Caithness, and shall sit at Dornoch or Wick; and the shire of Ross and Caithness shall answer to the justice aire of Caithness."

Originally there could be but one commissary or Bishop's court in each diocese. When the residence of the Bishop was fixed in the

the vicinity of Elgin, he must have committed a branch of his jurisdiction to a député at Inverness.

From the great confidence which the first ministers of the gospel merited, they were frequently entrusted with the curacy of the estates of dying persons, which at last they claimed as matter of right, gradually extending their pretensions to judge in tithes, patronages, testaments, scandal, breach of vow; marriage, as a sacrament; and divorce and in dowries, because of their connexion with marriage; and in all questions where an oath interveaed, as being a part of religious worship.

When prelacy was finally abolished, the commissary courts were established by the State, embarrassing and complicating the course of civil justice, by continuing a separate channel for certain portions that are fancifully deemed improper for discussion before the common courts, and in other matters making it optional to the people to have recourse to either. The forms of civil justice have been long maintained, but in many cases similar to that of religion, *without the power of it.*

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—Before the year 1638 the town and parish of Inverness was under the charge only of one minister; and in the year 1706 their number was encreased to 3. The stipend of the first and second is L.45. 2s. 4d. and 84 bolls 1 firlot 2 pecks, the one half bear and the other oatmeal, with each a glebe somewhat less than the legal extent; the allowance for the communion being included. They have right to a manse, which the want of steadiness and unanimity between themselves prevents from making good. The stipend of the third minister is secured by a grant from Queen Anne on the bishop rents of Moray and Ross, for the sum of L.108. 10s. without manse or glebe, or allowance for the communion. The right of the patronage of the first and third livings appertains to the Crown, and that of the second to the family of Lovat. There are two modera handsome churches, in one of which the service is performed in the Gaelic tongue. There is a small congregation of Antiburger Seceders, and a similar assembly of Scots Episcopilians; and of late a Methodist meeting-house, attended chiefly by manufacturers from other counties.

Prior to the year 1787 the establishment for education, similar to that of Elgin and Forres, consisted of a grammar school, and a school in which reading English, writing, and arithmetic, were

taught. There had been two small legacies bequeathed for the education of 8 boys, and in that year subscriptions for an academy, on a comprehensive plan, were solicited in France, America, and both the Indies, as well as in Great Britain. These subscriptions exceeded L.6277 sterling, and an elegant edifice was erected in an enclosure of 3 acres which had been purchased. The accommodation consists of a large hall, and 6 spacious apartments for the philosophical apparatus, the classes, and the library, which had been founded about the beginning of this century by Mr. Fraser and Dr. Bray, who gave many books, and a sum of money for raising a salary for its keeper. To the annual income arising from the subscription fund, the Magistracy have added an endowment of L.70 sterling yearly, by which the teacher of English has a salary of L.30, with a fee of 12s. yearly from each scholar in his class: the teacher of Latin and Greek has L.40, with a fee of L.1. 4s. from each of his scholars yearly: the teacher of writing, arithmetic, and book-keeping, has L.30, with a fee of L.1. 4s. from each of his scholars yearly: the teacher of mathematics has L.40, with L.2. 2s. yearly from each of his scholars: the rector, who teaches civil and natural history, natural philosophy, astronomy, and chemistry, has a house and L.50 of salary, and L.3. 3s. yearly from each in his own class, besides a small sum paid by each student. The academy retains in whole about 200 students. The first session commences on July 16, and terminates on December 20; and the last begins on January 5, and concludes on the 10th of June.

The directors of the academy are, the Provost, the 4 Baillies, the Dean of Guild, the Sheriff, and the Moderator of the presbytery; subscribers to the amount of L.50, during their lives; and for their own lives and their heirs who subscribed L.100; and 5 gentlemen of the county, elected at the Michaelmas meeting of freeholders yearly. At the desire of the Highland Society in London, there is a class opened for teaching the Gaelic tongue, with a salary from them of L.15 yearly, to which the directors have added the sum of L.16. There is likewise a dancing school, and a music school, detached from the academy, under the patronage of the Magistrates. The Society for propagating Christian Knowledge have established 4 of their schools in the remote quarters of the parish, and there are 6 private schools in the town.

The number of poor on the parish roll amounts to about 220, of which about 70 are stated pensioners, receiving a weekly or quarterly supply, from about L.1. 5s. to L.4 yearly; and occasional supplies exceeding that extent are sometimes granted to families in distress. The fund arising from bequeathments, chiefly in the last century, amounts to L.2520. 18s. 10s.; and a farther sum of about L.70 yearly is contributed by the people in their meetings for public worship. The cashier is a respectable citizen, generally one of the Magistrates, and his accounts are accurately balanced yearly. The whole population of the town and country parish amounts to 10,500, of which the number of Dissenters, though not with precision ascertained, is comparatively insignificant.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The inhabitants of the town and parish are decent and regular in their attendance on the ordinances of religion. They are well affected to the government of their country: they are good neighbours, and industrious in their respective occupations. The proprietors of lands and houses about the town are about 40. In the year 1754 the real rent of the parish was L.575. 7s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. sterling, and 3268 bolls 3 firlots, and at that period the value of the boll was about 10s.: since then the land rent has been more than doubled. There are 2 clubs established in the town, who have formed funds, by which they are enabled to support disabled members to the extent of 4s. or 6s. weekly. The lower farmers and cottagers are greatly more industrious, since relieved of the services to their landlords, in consequence of which they are also more cleanly in their persons and houses, and considerably improved in their attire. About 30 years ago, there was only one 4-wheeled carriage in the parish; at present there are 12, with 2 coaches and one 2-wheeled chaise.

On the northern bank of the river, a little farther up than the island that has been mentioned, there is a curiously insulated mount, resembling a ship with the keel uppermost. It rises 250 feet above the level of the river, is 1984 in length along the base, and 176 in breadth.

On one of the summits of the great range of mountains, which have been mentioned as stretching backward from the champaign along the Frith to the western shore, there is the rock *Craig-Phadrick*, 1150 feet above the level of the river, exhibiting the remains of vitrified

vitrified fortification, supposed to have been the royal residence of the Pictish monarch *Brudius*, upon whom the light of the gospel first dawned; by the pious ministrations of St. Columba. The structure of this fortification is remarkable, and has attracted much of the notice of the antiquary. The ramparts are not constructed of detached blocks of the vitrified substance, but in continued, extensive, and unbroken masses, exhibiting satisfactory proof of their having undergone the process of vitrification, on the foundations which they at present occupy; having been formed, as is supposed, by a pile of earth, trunks of trees, brushwood, and stone, some feet in thickness, between a double row of close pallisadoes, fused by the strength of the fire in its own combustion. It is however hardly possible to account for the prodigious mounds of vitrified matter upon the east side of the rock, without the idea of volcanic production, although prior, perhaps, and wholly unconnected with this fortrefs.

At some distance from the mouth of the river, a considerable way within flood-mark, there is a large pile of stone, of very remote antiquity: *cairn airt*, its Gaelic appellation, denotes *the monument of the sea*. A beacon apprizes vessels entering the harbour of their danger. Westward in the Frith, three other similar piles remain, one a huge heap near the middle of the estuary, yet accessible at low water. From the urns that have been discovered, they must be sepulchral monuments; and they have been originally placed at a considerable distance from the water's edge, carrying back our idea to a period, when the estuary terminated at the influx of the Nefs, and the course of the Beaulie alone winded along the margin of the vale. The name of the town, parish, county, river, and lake, has been by a very ingenious investigation derived from the *Fall of Foyers*. *ess* is one Gaelic noun which signifies *a cataract*. The lake into which this uncommon fall is almost immediately discharged, might be not unaptly termed *LOCH-NA-ESS*, *the lake of the cataract*. Thus the river and town would naturally derive their appellation from a relation, closer than what is frequently formed merely by vicinity: yet it is not common for an object to impose a name which itself does not bear. Though there are several waterfalls, such as that on the river Shin, and those upon the Clyde, more striking than that of Foyers, yet none have distinguished any place by the conversion of a common into a proper name. Hardly

can

can an instance be adduced, unless it be a mean village, just over a trifling fall in the river Tyne, denominated *Lintown*: and in this case, the river which constitutes the fall of Foyers is named *Feochlin*, denoting in the Gaelic, from the appearance and form of the water in its projection over the cliff, *the stream with the column*.

It might therefore be conjectured, that when these sepulchral monuments were erected so far within the dry land, a promontory, now washed away, stood over the influx of the river, expressive, by the terms *nes* and *inver*, of the situation of the town, which in time extended its appellation to the lake and country around. It has been already suggested (No. xv.), that the materials of this promontory, washed up upon the shores of Auldearn and Dyke, may have contributed to the formation of that destructive magazine of sand over the estate of Culbin and its vicinity.



## NUMBER XXVII.

## PARISH OF KIRKHILL.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THIS parish extends about 5 miles from that of Inverness along the Frith to its head, and nearly 3 miles farther upon the bank of the river Beaulie, to the limits of the parish of Kiltarlity.

The plain or low country of Moray has been described as spread out along the shore, but contracting its breadth, as does also the Frith, as they stretch towards the west. This great plain terminates upon the eastern confines of this parish, which may be conceived as an acclivity rising gently from the edge of the water to the breadth of nearly a mile. Westward of this, the Frith contracts so as to leave a plain along the bottom of a hill, which may be still regarded as one of those low ridges which it has been said diversify the champaign of Moray; for behind this hill there is a vale, as if the river Beaulie had once occupied its southern, as it does now its northern side, mixed with the tide: by these two plains and the intervening hill, the breadth of the parish in its western quarter is expanded to the breadth of 3 miles.

The soil in the lower part of the parish is a strong rich clay, producing

ducing, when properly cultivated, equal to any in Scotland; but with improper treatment, liable in a dry season to bind so fast as to stint the crop, and in a rainy spring to chill the seed with cold: as the country rises, the soil becomes a fertile loam, yielding, though at times a lighter, yet a less precarious crop; higher still in the country, the soil becomes lighter, incumbent on gravel, but in favourable seasons moderately productive.

The climate is temperate and mild, less exposed to rain than the countries on the south and west: and the harvest is generally concluded by the middle or end of October.

*State of Property.*—The valued rent of the parish, shared among 5 proprietors, extends to the sum of L.2068. 17s. of which the estate of Lovat comprises L.1093. 10s. 4d. Reelig, the property of Edward Simon Fraser, extends to L.170. Newtown, the estate of Major Thomas Fraser, extends to L.384. Lentron, the freehold of Thomas Warrand Esq. to L.288. And Arthur Forbes of Culloden Esq. has a valuation of L.133. 6s. 8d. The extent of the farms are from L.10 to L.15 of rent; about the number of 8 rise to the extent of from L.30 to L.60; and several artizans and labourers possess small farms, from 5s. to L.5. The mean rent of the acre may be stated at 17s. 6d. exclusive of some lands, let about 30 years ago, that as yet have not risen above 10s. the acre: the real rent is about L.2000 sterling. The number of horses about 400, the black cattle about 800, and the sheep about 1000, of which 200 are of the Bakewell breed.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The parishes of Farnea and Wardlaw were united in 1618. In the original parish of Wardlaw, at present the western district, the church at first was placed at Dunballach, nearly 2 miles up the river. By the Pope's bull, it was translated to its present station as early as the year 1220. There is one of the highest summits of the ridge of hill upon the coast of Duffus, called also the WARDLAW, still bearing testimony by their names to that miserable government under which our ancestors for many generations found it necessary to keep ward, or a watch upon the most commanding eminence of every district, to guard against the sudden inroad of some plundering band, or the invasion of some more formidable foe. On more than one account, therefore, this hill was found to be the most eligible situation for the parish church. The name of the other constituent parish denotes, in the Gaelic, that it

was

was distinguished by groves of aller trees, with which it is still to some consideration embellished. The Gaelic name of the present parish is CNOCK MHURIE, *Mary's hill*; having been a parsonage under the Roman Catholic dispensation, dedicated to the Spouse of the Carpenter. In the neighbourhood it is dignified by the name of *the hill*: but in English it is less eminently particularized by the appellation of *Kirkhill*. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, amounts to L.52. 14s. 2d. and 40 bolls of bear, and 40 bolls of oat-meal, with a glebe of about 7 acres. The right of patronage appertains to the family of Lovat. The salary of the parochial school is L.11. 2s. 2d. with the fees from about 60 scholars, and the customary emoluments of the office of session clerk. The Society for Christian Knowledge have also established a school, with a salary of L.12 sterling, which retains about 70 scholars.

The number of poor amounts to 50. The provision for them, made by the people in their assemblies for public worship, the hire of the pall, and the interest of a capital of L.50, amounts in whole to about L.14 in the year. The people altogether, excepting 6 Roman Catholics, are members of the National Church, and they amount to the number of 1190.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—In the course of the last 50 years, greater progress has been made in the civilization of the people than for many centuries during the subsistence of the feudal establishment. While that system continued, every chieftain acted as an independent despot, committing depredations on the territory of his neighbour, as animosity prompted, or as avarice suggested; by these means the people upon contiguous estates were heated by mutual hatred and constant jealousy. While the fruits of labour were precarious, the incitements to industry had no energy: while morals could neither procure the good will of the chief, nor ward off the lawless depredation of a neighbour, they could win no regard. The ordinances of religion, in the primitive times of presbytery, were no doubt with the greatest punctuality, and some attention to propriety, dispensed: but religion was regarded here as beneath the notice of a race of warriors, and as inconsistent with gallantry and valour; sentiments easily impressed upon people who could not read, and who, through their ignorance and credulity, were the abject slaves of their tyrannical and selfish masters. The provisions, therefore, by the government, for improving the powers

of mind, have secured the fidelity of the lower orders of the people, by the sanctions both of temporal and of spiritual consideration. When deistical sentiments were originally published, they at the first bore away the upper and middle ranks of people, who could then alone form any opinion of such sophistical speculations: the knowledge of letters has now no doubt opened a course for the same delusion among the lowest of the people; and while the charms of novelty remain, as hath been the case upon the introduction of every religious sect, it is probable that many will be misled: but as it happened among the upper orders of society, truth will in due time prevail also among them. In the mean time their reasoning powers will become vastly improved, the eye of the mind become in all things more discerning, the craft of vagabond preachers, strolling quacks, and knavish fortune-tellers, will be all equally exposed; and the unequalled blessings of the Christian religion, and of the British constitution, will be more distinctly apprehended and more universally revered.

## NUMBER XXII.

## PARISH OF KILLTARLITY.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—THE parishes which have been hitherto described upon the borders of the province are bounded by the shore of the Moray Frith, here terminated in the river; which, as hath been suggested in No. ix. may have originally formed, and, similar to the rivers Clyde, Forth, and Tay, imparted at the first its own name to this great estuary, and which the silly French epithet, BEAULIEU, *fine place*, imposed by the monks both on the monastery and river, has not been able to obliterate. The river still retains the name of *Varrar*, which it bore in the days of Ptolomy: and *the Frith of Varrar* is the denomination, without exception, adopted by every author who has had occasion to mention it in the Latin tongue. Its etymology may be ascertained from what has been suggested in No. i. relating to the import of the name *Garmach*.

From Kirkhill upon the east, the parish of Killtarlity extends along the southern side of the river Varrar up to the influx of the Glass; upon the southern side of which it is then continued westward

ward to the mountains bordering on Kintail, being in part intersected by the Cannich, in its course from the lake of Asarig to its influx in the Glass; but the estate of Erchlefs, a part of the fortune of the family of Chisolm, although upon the north side of the river, a little below the junction of the Glass, and almost intersecting the parish of Killmorae in the synod of Ross, appertains to the parish of Killtarlity. Towards the south, the parish spreads wide, and rises high, upon the mountains which border with Urquhart. In this quarter it is intersected by 4 brooks from the south-west and west, between as many broad moory ridges, which gradually ascend for nearly 2 miles, having some cultivated lands almost at their summits, and though now barren, and covered only by stunted heath, yet bearing the tokens of ancient cultivation over their whole extent, when the low grounds were marsh or forest, the haunt of noxious reptiles and ravenous beasts. The lower part of the parish is pretty level. The soil in general is light and thin; but in many places deep and fertile: it bears a considerable number of fruit trees, reckoned as productive as any in the north. The climate is healthful; and although there is much less rain in the lower part of the country than in the district of Strathglass, where the clouds, mustered by eddying winds upon the brows of high mountains, dash down in heavy showers, but generally spent before they reach the lower districts, yet the people living there are equally healthy with those in the most genial situation.

*State of Property.]*—The parish contains 180 square miles, and nearly 92,000 acres, of which about the 30th part, or little more than 3000 acres, are arable, under corn and potatoe, with the exception of a small proportion in sown grass and turnip. Besides the natural meadow and mountain pasturage, there are about 1200 acres in plantation, and nearly 5000 under natural wood, oak, alder, birch, and hazel. The valued rent, amounting to L. 2455. 15s. is divided among 7 proprietors.

The family seat of William Chisolm of Chisolm, the chieftain of the clan, is pleasantly situated at Erchlefs, in a sweeping bend of the river, upon its northern bank, a little below the junction of the Varar with the Glass. A great extent of rich and fertile corn-field lies around this great and elegant messuage, embellished with walks, gardens, groves, and much ground greatly ornamented. Its environs farther down the river are decorated by the picturesque island

island of Agaish, an oval nearly 2 miles in circuit. Formed of hard and solid rock, it rises in a gentle slope about 100 feet above the river: covered with a variety of wood, it affords pasture and shelter for sheep, goats, and a few cows, during the months of summer and harvest. Near its eastern end, the landscape is enlivened by a fall in the river, about 6 feet in height, and a saw-mill: 7 saws are wrought by 4 wheels, turning 80 or 90 times in a minute, and cutting a log of 10 feet long, from end to end, in little than 4 minutes. This work was established in 1765, whereby a revenue of nearly L.300 yearly is produced from the forests of the chieftain. The greater part of the timber is felled in the parish of Killmorae, reduced into logs of 10 or 12 feet. It is drawn by horses, about 2 miles, to the water, to be floated along the 3 rivers that have been mentioned, for 30 or 40 miles, to the mill; where, after being cut up, it must be still carried by horses below the fall of Killmorae, about 3 miles farther down than the mill, where it is again floated in rafts to the Frith, and thence transported to Leith and London. The timber makes a yellow deal, and the most durable in Scotland. The vale of Strathglass extends backward beyond the bounds of the province, into the parish of Kintail: but the valued rent of the Chisolt domains in the parish of Killtarlity amounts to L.697. 10s.

Farther down the river is Beaufort, the family seat of Lovat, the Hon. Archibald Fraser. Its name denotes that it was originally a fortress. On the north it was secured by a steep green bank, rising about 100 feet from the edge of the river: on the land side, it was guarded by 2 ditches, the nearest about 40, and the other about 300 yards from the walls. Although the traces of fortification may be still explored, the present edifice is a modern elegant palace, embellished by ornamented grounds, shrubbery, extensive plantation, and natural groves. The garden, almost itself a farm, is inclosed by a wall 18 feet in height, lined with brick, extended in various flexures upwards of 800 yards, opening right upon the sun from hour to hour, through the whole course of his diurnal rotation, and generally producing great quantities of the finest fruitage. It is watered by a clear, copious stream, and enriched by a spacious hot-house, both of which could be easily restored to their pristine efficiency and trim.

In the environs of this splendid mansion, is the grand fall of Killmorae.

Killmorae. The torrents of many hills, and the streams from many lakes, united at last into the Varrar, sometimes in the Gaelic called *the monks' river*, and the Beauly, in the vicinity of the monastery, roll on a majestic volume, little inferior to the Spey, and rivalling the Clyde or Dee. It approaches this precipice, about 20 feet in height, as if unsuspicuous of the fall; collected there, and hovering, doubtful as it were, for a moment over the gulph, as if forced reluctant by the unconscious river behind, it is poured down without resistance, in one unbroken ponderous mass, with a ful-ten heavy plunge and an unvaried hollow roar: rising again through the pressure of the deep water, with much less ebullition or violence than might be pre-supposed, it sluggishly occupies the bottom of a precipitous chasm, at such a depth below as to excite apprehension and dizziness on looking down into the shadowy abyss. The northern brow of the cliff is decorated by a little handsome tower, built by the minister upon the environs of the glebe of Killmorae, from whence this great object may be viewed in the most comfortable circumstances, and to the greatest advantage. Having slowly won its passage through the rifted rock, the river winds in silence through the wooded dale, to meet the tide advancing between the contracted shores of the terminating Frith.

Hundreds of salmon at times are seen below, attempting to spring up the fall, and they bound, when in full vigour, to an amazing height. Unconscious of the unsurmountable steep, they repeat their unavailing efforts, while many swerve so far to either hand, as to fall back upon a ledge of rock almost level with the water upon both its sides. Branches of trees have been arranged along the edges of these shelves, to prevent the fish from regaining the river: and by these simple means 8 or 12 have been got in the course of a night. Here also the late Lord Lovat had a kettle placed over a fire, into which some of the fish unfortunately plunged; and, boiled in this manner, were served up to dinner, with the marvellous recommendation to strangers, "That the fish had spontaneously vaulted from the river into the boiling kettle to be dressed;" which was afterwards explained by ocular inspection at the place. At these times, the salmon are frequently caught by a pole armed with 3 hooks joined back to back, dipped softly for only half a minute in the pool under the fall, and with a sudden jerk

jerk pulled back, generally hooks a fish by some part of the body. The valued rent of the estate in this parish is L.1090. 6s. 8d.

Eastward from Beaufort, under the mountains towards Urquhart, is Belladrum, the family seat of Colonel James Fraser; a handsome modern house: the surrounding fields brought into the highest and most ornamental cultivation. The plantations were begun about the year 1760. Besides the decorations and fruit trees about the house, and a great extent of common fir, they consist of oak, ash, elm, beech, and plane, various kinds of poplars, mountain ash, and service tree; besides larix, New England pine, spruce, and silver fir. The valued rent extends to L.100 Scots.

The parish is farther embellished by the family mansions of other proprietors. The valued rent of Kilbockie, appertaining to William Fraser Esq. amounts to L.379. 5s. Baladoun, the property of Captain James Fraser Esq. is L.67. That of Escadale, to Captain Hugh Fraser Esq. is L.96. 13s. 4d. And Kellachy, to —— Fraser, is L.25. The real rent of the parish amounts to about L.2000 sterling. The rent of the arable acre varies from 5s. to L.1. The land is cultivated by nearly 200 ploughs. The number of black cattle is estimated at 3000, horses about 720, sheep 5200, and goats 420: about 200 of the sheep are an English breed, and highly improved.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—This parish is composed of the ancient parsonage of Killtarlity, dedicated to St. Thalargus, and another parish, Glenconvent, in the southern quarter of the district, a vicarage which appertained to the priory of Beaulie; and that they might draw the more tythes, the annexation was made under that establishment.

The monastery itself, of the same order with that of Pluscarden, derived a considerable proportion of its revenue from tithes within the province of Moray, upon the margin of which it was placed, without its boundary, though in the county of Inverness. It was established by James Bifet, a gentleman of considerable rank in that country, in the year 1230. The only remains of the building are the walls of what had been the place of worship, bearing no trace of turret or steeple, or any ornament of architecture. The floor is almost covered with tomb-stones of various ages, many nearly co-eval with the building itself: the most ancient, from their construction

tion and form, appear to have been the lids of stone coffins; on each is a large cross, surrounded by ancient vignettes, swords, animals, and other symbols, the import of which is not now to be defined. From there being no vestige of letters, it may be inferred, that writing was not in this country understood when these monuments were framed: as many of them must have been carved under the eye, and probably by the hand of the clergy, they must certainly have bore some written inscription, had the knowledge of letters or reading penetrated at that time into this seat of instituted devotion. The earliest inscriptions are dated about 300 years after its foundation: they are in the Saxon character, upon the margin generally of an effigy of the deceased. But those more ancient monuments, in which the cross is so variously exhibited as the principal among the symbols, become an interesting subject of reflection. Before the knowledge of writing, these sculptured symbols must have had important allusions to the much venerated memorials of those regards, which have ever been, at death, the most interesting concern of human life. These monuments, almost themselves obliterated, have proved faithless to the memory of the pious or respectable deceased, which they were intended to perpetuate; they have left undistinguished the characters which they were designed to celebrate, and they only serve to show, that the annals even of the tomb are perishable and transitory as the life of man.

The situation of the parish church is denominated **TOM-NA-CROSS**, *the hillock of the cross*. A little more than half an acre planted with fir, mingled with a few oak, birch, and elm, now almost eclipse the church: and, after the manner of the most ancient religion in the island, public worship is still performed here in a grove. The stipend is L.89. 9s. 4d. and 46 bolls 3 firlots and 1 peck of barley. The right of patronage appertains to the honourable Archibald Fraser of Lovat. In the higher and remote parts of the parish, conjoined with a district of that quarter of the parish of Killmorae, there is a missionary clergyman established by the royal bounty; he officiates in 4 separate districts, at considerable distances from each other, with no little difficulty and toil. The salary of the parochial school is 18 bolls 1 firlot 2 pecks of barley, with the usual fees for teaching arithmetic, writing, and reading English, the highest attainments of the present teacher, and L.1. 13s. 4d. as the fee, besides the customary emoluments of the office of session clerk.

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The tenants in the remote district retain by their own funds two young men, in their respective quarters, for teaching their children to read and write. The number of the poor enrolled amounts to 45. The provision for them, raised in the usual manner from the people, with the peculiarity of rents upon some of the pews in the church, amounts to about £.10 yearly. The members of the national Church are 2009; and the Dissenters, of the Church of Rome, are 486.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—There are 6 Druid temples within a mile of the church: one of these is within the present church-yard. A small farm near the church is named ARD DRUIGH NAUGH, *the high place of the Druids*: another place is named BLAR-NA-CARRACHAN, *the moor of the circles*: and a third, BALL-NA-CARRACHAN, *the town of the circles*. About 2 miles east from the church is situated Castle Spynie; in the Gaelic, CHASTAIL SPUNIDH, *the fortress of the spoil*. The wall of the building is completely circular, formed of stone without any kind of cement, about 10 feet thick, and 54 yards in circumference; it is placed on a hill almost 800 feet above the plain, so as to be in view of Cnoc Farril, a contemporary strong hold, in the parish of Fodderty on the north; and on the west it is in sight of DUN FHIONN, *Fingal's fort*, which is situated on a conical hill, accessible only on the eastern side; it is also perfectly circular, about 60 yards in circumference, just visible only above ground, but completely vitrified almost to the depth of 3 feet; evidently, and at first view, the work of art, like Craig-Phadrick in Inverness, no way connected with volcanic productions. An old record in Duthrobin Castle, it is said, explains this ancient mode of building: bearing, that a stranger had come from the south, into Sutherland, who had discovered an excellent cement for strong buildings, composed of iron ore mixed with other stone, vitrified by the force of fire.

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#### NUMBER XXIX.

#### P ARISH QF U R Q U H A R T.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—THE course of this survey has been hitherto conducted from the east, towards the west; but it is directed southward.

southward from the banks of the Beauly, along the western limits of the province, to the sources of the Spey.

The parish of Urquhart skirts along the southern limits of those of Inverness, Kirkhill, and Killtarlity, sweeping also in part by the eastern boundary of those of Kilmorae, Kintail, and Glensheal, to where the parish of Kilmanivack, stretched from the Atlantic ocean, conjoins with that of Boleskin, bending round from the east, across the western termination of Loughness. The communication from the town of Inverness, on the eastern coast, to Fort William on the western shore, opened along the length of Loughness, has led its course, in a general view, to be considered in the same direction: but although the termination of the lake at Fort Augustus be greatly to the westward of Inverness, it is also so much to the south, that if the cardinal points of the compass are only in regard, its course with more accuracy may be considered as lying in the direction of north and south. Accordingly in Urquhart, the whole eastern side of the parish is described as being washed by the waters of the lake, by which it is separated from Boleskin on the other side.

By the lofty mountain of Mhalfourvonne, the parish is divided into two districts, Urquhart upon its northern, and Glenmoriston upon its southern side; and they may be both conceived as valleys stretching nearly parallel, towards the west, from the margin of the lake. That of Urquhart, a little inward, divides itself into two, by extending a branch southerly into the skirts of Mhalfourvonne: each branch is watered by its own blue stream, which, meeting in their courses, have opened, as it were, the country to the breadth of several miles of plain; and they deliver their water into a bay, expanded to a considerable length from the lake, and more than a mile in breadth, the only place where the lake of Ness is not bounded by rock upon either of its sides.

The mountain of Mhalfourvonne rises almost perpendicular, in one uniform face from the lake, to the height of 3060 feet. On the other 3 sides, a rounded rocky peak hath shot up about a fifth part higher than the general elevation of the mountain. From this it seems to have derived its appellation, signifying in the Gaelic *a old wart, or excrescence of a hill.* Upon the western side, at the bottom of the peak, is a small lake, which makes a conspicuous figure among the fictions of all the systems of geography, and which otherwise in this place would have met with no regard. Its fur-

face is equal to about 4 acres: it is supported by springs, and the rains which drift pretty frequent around the sides of the peak. In dry weather, the evaporation is equal to the water it receives: in seasons of rain, it emits a small stream from its southern end. It might be inferred, from its being well stocked with trout, which require an extent, proportional to their number, of moderately shallow water, that it is nowhere of unfathomable depth; which has of late been ascertained to be the fact; by the minister of the parish and another gentleman. From its situation so far within the stormy wilderness, it is more than probable, that it has never been beheld during any intense frost. The trout are in such numbers as to have distinguished this little lake by their own Gaelic characteristic, namely *the lake of the red-bellied trout*.

The prospect from the summit of the peak is highly interesting: the faculty of vision itself seems to have received additional power: the view is chiefly extended in the course of east and west, commanding an extent from the environs of Fort George nearly to Fort William. The whole expanse of the lake lies together under the eye, but at such a distance below, as to suggest the idea of a narrow ditch, deep sunk within steep banks. The distant horizon from the west, round over the north, is bounded by the mountain thro' Ross and Sutherland, to the shores of Caithness; and though nothing but the dun waste, thinly diversified by the glittering of scattered lakes, is to be seen, a trackless desert of boundless extent, yet it is hardly possible to banish the idea of the many fertile peopled vales, with the various toils and luxuries, pains and pleasures, which from this station are so completely overlooked. The whole district of Stratheric is displayed upon the opposite side as a painted landscape under the eye; but though the peak itself may be descried by the mariner, immediately on his clearing Kinnaird's Head, where the Moray Frith is lost in the German ocean, yet the prospect is bounded by the mountain between Stratheric and the course of the Spey. The fall of Foyers, directly over against the peak upon the other side of the lake, at the distance of nearly 6 miles in a right line from the eye, is among the most interesting objects. Its white spray, contrasted with the bleak mountain through which it dashes down, resembles the light of the sky seen through the arch of a distant gateway: its roar meanwhile grows or dies upon the ear, as the airy breeze propels or bears away the sound. The

valley of Glenmoriston may be distinctly traced for 20 miles westerly from the lake: it is inhabited only for about the half of that length, and its breadth is no-where considerable: it opens at the distance of 10 miles from the influx of the river of Urquhart: the road between winds over the declivities in the precipitous face of Mhalfourvonne, much encumbered by loose angular fragments of the rock: the path too narrow for a carriage, along the verge of the wooded steep which overhangs the lake, is carried over the stream of Alckenis upon an ancient arch, named TROCHET-NA-CRE-KIT-RENISH, *the bridge of the wooded rocks*. Glenmoriston itself, signifying the great valley of the deep cascade, opens on the lake between the fronts of two lofty cliffs, reared up in gloomy grandeur: the one is called CRAIG-KINIAN, *the giants' rock*; the other, a fable peak projecting over the lake, is denominated STRUAN-MU-ROH, *the promontory of the boar*. The wildness of these characteristic appellations distinguishes these interior regions no less, than the striking appearance of their sublime scenery. The road is continued to Fort Augustus, across the river of Moriston, by an elegant light bridge of 2 arches, meeting on a great rock in the middle of the stream, with a pretty cascade in each of its channels. A trim path winds down the river, through a grove upon the level bank, for about 300 paces, to a neat octagon building, overhanging the margin just before the great fall. Although the river has its origin far distant in Glenishead, forming in its progress the long-winding lake of Clunie, yet the volume of water is not so large as that which forms the fall of Killmorack; but the height from which it is precipitated is nearly the same. The torrent, however, spreads to a greater breadth, and advances with rapidity and increasing tumult to the farthest verge of the gulph, and broken by a rock in its fall, it tosses itself into spray and foam, and at times, from some slight alteration perhaps in the pressure of the atmosphere, as if animated by some internal impetus of the stream, it bounds considerably higher than its ordinary repercussion, which adds much to the vivacity of this fascinating object. Here too, as at Killmorae, and with no better success, the salmon attempt to vault over the fall, and by a pole similarly armed with hooks, many with dexterity are occasionally caught, in the momentary flash of their ill-fated bound. Below the cataract, the rivet sweeps round in the sullen eddies of a deep and gloomy pool, seeming to pause in the shadow of the

dark surrounding cliffs and overhanging hills; then on a sudden it bursts away in a straight and narrow channel, through which it shoots in deepened and condensed rapidity, rushing with a whizzing din along the sides of the rock, cut down by its own ceaseless violence, driving on resistless, amid the echoes of the impending cliffs and high-towering hills.

In both districts the soil is light and warm: in Urquhart, it is a fertile, though not a deep, loam; in Glenmoriston, it is inferior, in general sandy and light. The arable grounds are pleasantly interspersed with pasture, and sheltered by natural groves, varied by murmuring brooks: in one of them is the distinguished fall of Divah, about 100 feet of perpendicular height: a winding path through a wooded bank leads easily to its bottom; a volume of water only is wanting for the completion of its grandeur. The close shelter of the woods, and the warm reflexion of the sun from the rocks, have ranked this country among the earlier Highland districts: yet in autumn the return of rain is so unwelcomely frequent, as seldom to admit of saving the corn in the open air. Fabrics, therefore, peculiar for this purpose, are pretty generally erected: the roof between ordinary gables is supported upon timber posts, and it projects almost a yard over the sides, which are wattled with wands neatly trimmed; the inside is fitted up with rails, in which pegs are fastened, upon each of which, like the muskets in an armoury, a single sheaf is separately hung, where in a short time they become so dry, in any weather, as to keep otherwise safe, when their removal makes way for the crop of another field. Such dry-houses are common upon the western coast. On smaller farms, the walls of the barns are built of angular stone, in such an open manner as to admit, or rather draw in, the wind, while the rain trickles down along the outside.

*State of Property.*]—James Grant Esq. advocate, the author of Essays on the Gaelic Tongue, and on the Manners of the Celts—a subject which the distinguished ingenuity and abilities of the author have not been able to make generally interesting now—has his paternal seat at Corrymonie, signifying in the Gaelic *St. Mona's hollow*, or *valley*, transmitted through a line of ancestors reaching back to the year 1509, in the reign of James IV. It is situated in the mountains towards Killtarlity, and upon the sources of the river of Urquhart. It is the farthest cultivated land in that district,

the desert stretching beyond unbroken almost to the western shore. The building, although not modern, is plain, without turrets, or any ornament of architecture; but it is embellished by groves, a garden, and inclosed fields, and those bewitching beauties of a mountainous and stormy region, so inexplicably fascinating to the natives educated among them. The valued rent of this ancient inheritance amounts to L.210 Scots.

The whole district of Glenmoriston is the property of Major John Grant, and an inheritance coeval with that of Corrymonie. The family seat stands upon the side of Loughness, at such a distance from the cataract, as to be soothed only by its gentle and uniform murmur. It is a plain but commodious mansion, commanding an extensive and varied view of the lake, woods, and rocky mountains; but except the house of Foyers, far distant on the other side of the lake, it is not in sight of any other dwelling, and of the little cultivated field only in its own environs. In its close vicinity, there is a pretty handsome building, erected about the year 1760 by the trustees of the forfeited estates, to promote the industry of the Highland lasses, to instruct them in spinning fine yarn, and in some other domestic arts, rendering their time more valuable, and making the youth of both sexes better acquainted with the advantages of diligence and the blessings of industry; in the knowledge of which they might be still improved. This building, converted now to less interesting purposes, is not the seat of any manufacture, and remains the monument only of laudable design. The valued rent of Glenmoriston is L.896. 10s. Its principal crops are, black oats, potatoe, bear: a little rye, and white oats, and cultivated grafts, may be also produced: it supports about 500 milch cows, and about 1000 other black cattle: with a proportion of these, it spares also butter and cheese; but the country was not able to supply provision for its own inhabitants, about 600 souls, before the general cultivation of potatoe. Besides the sheep it can now spare, it also disposes yearly of a considerable number of horses.

The rest of the parish, valued at L.1113. 5s. Scots, is the property of Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart.; extending its whole valuation to L.2219. 15s. Scots. There is a great proportion of the parish occupied in farms of respectable extent, varying from about L.50 to about L.100 of rent. Among these also, are several

handsome

handsome buildings, occupied by gentlemen who cultivate this sequestered vale, and live happily in each other's society; three of these, Shewglie, Lockletter, and Lakefield, are pleasantly situated round the borders of a little lake in the course of the river of Urquhart, about one mile in length, and more than half a mile in breadth. The cut free-stone of the house of Lakefield, which is on the property of Corrymonie, was carried from the shore of Duffus, at the expence of more than L.50. Sir James Grant has also built a neat commodious mansion in the beautiful situation of Ballinaceaun, and where he occasionally visits. The greater number of the tenants hold small farms, reaching from less than L.1 to L.7, or L.15. The average value of the acre may be estimated at 18s. A very considerable revenue is derived from the wood, part of which is burned in making *red herring* in Caithness, transported by the lake and river of Ness to the boats which receive it in the Frith. The number of black cattle in the Urquhart district are reckoned to amount to 2400, of which the third part are milch cows. The real rent of the whole parish is not supposed to exceed L.3000 sterling.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The gradual organization of the Church of Scotland into the local unconnected judicatures of presbyteries and synods has been already noticed. It was not till the year 1724 that the synod of Glenelg, consisting of 5 presbyteries, and 29 parishes, was at the first established; prior to that period, the parishes of Urquhart, Boleskin, and Laggan, appertained to the synod of Moray; with Killmallie and Killmanivak, they now compose the presbytery of Abertarff: the two last were never in any shape connected with the province of Moray.

The church is prettily placed in a wood upon the bank of the river, and near the head of the bay. For the accommodation of the upper part of the vale, there is also a chapel, about two-thirds of the way from the lake to Corrymonie, where public worship is celebrated every third Sunday. The stipend, by a decree in 1796, is L.105, including the allowance for the expence of the communion. The glebe is about 6 acres. Sir James Grant holds the right of patronage. The parochial school is in the vicinity of the church, with a salary of L.14 sterling, and the other whole emoluments equal to L.10 more; it retains, at an average, about 50 scholars: reading English only, with writing and arithmetic, are taught.

In

In highland districts, widely separated from each other in the trackless wilderness, the thousand pounds of royal bounty is distributed with the most parsimonious economy: but had it been originally adjusted, so as to make one permanent establishment yearly, the whole of the Highlands 'ere now would have almost been sufficiently appointed with regular clergymen, each with a living of £.50. sterling in the year, and this annual expenditure saved at the last. In the solitary glens of Killtarlity and Kilmorack, the missionary, as has been noticed, toils laboriously in rotation through four separated congregations. In Glenmoriston, where the minister of the parish can only make occasional visitations, the public ordinances of the national religion are celebrated every third Sunday by the missionary established for that district, in connection with Abertarff in the parish of Boleskin, and Glengary in that of Kilmanivack, with a salary of £.35 yearly. The committee for managing this bounty have also appointed a catechist for the whole parish, with an allowance of £.12 yearly. The Society for Christian Knowledge have established a school in Glenmoriston, and another in the interior, upon the river of Urquhart; the first with an appointment of £.15 yearly, and the other with one of £.10; to which £.4 is added to his spouse, as mistress, for the girls in sewing. The statutory accommodations of a house, kitchen garden, and the means of supporting a cow, are furnished in the districts. Both masters teach the reading of the scriptures in the Gaelic as well as in the English tongue: and both also, as well as the catechist, are most assiduous in waiting on the people most remote from the situations of public worship; instructing them on the Sundays in the principles and duties of religion, in assisting their devotions by prayer, and their Christian edification, by reading the holy scriptures. The Society, with the country, are taking measures for establishing another school in the track of country between the two districts, about the skirts of Mhalsourvonne.

In Urquhart, the number of the poor on the roll is about 30; with a capital of £.100 bearing interest, the contributions in the assemblies of public worship make the fund equal to £.15 yearly for their support; from which £.2. 4s. 6d. is allocated to the clerk and session officer. The fund for the poor of Glenmoriston, kept wholly apart from the other, is only about £.3 of church contributions,

tions, and the interest of L.25, although their roll of poor exceeds that of the other district.

The number of the inhabitants in the whole parish, by an accurate enumeration obtained since the population table was printed, amounts to 2355, exceeding the number stated in that table by 306, and making the increase of the whole population of the province, since the year 1755, equal to 537, instead of the 254 there stated. The whole inhabitants of both districts are of the national religion, except about 80 of the people of Glenmoriston; many of whom, in the absence of their own Roman Catholic clergyman, attend the meeting of their protestant brethren.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—Before the year 1746, the parish was much distressed by the depredations of their neighbours in the western Highlands, who plundered their cattle and other property. The advantages of good government having reached the most uncivilized quarters of the island, property is now completely secure. For more than 30 years, all differences among the people have been most satisfactorily adjusted by a gentleman in the country, in the character of *Baron of Baily*; the people's money is thereby saved, and even the spirit itself of litigation dies gradually away. The people are religious, industrious, and loyal. In the year 1793, 80 men entered cheerfully into the first fencible regiment. At present there is one company of volunteers in Urquhart, of 60 men; and one in Glenmoriston, of 40. The length of road that has been made, and is kept in repair by the parish, is about 50 miles. The fund for this object is a commutation for the statute labour of 2s. from each male above 15 years of age, and about L.9 assed on the valued rent, at 1d. sterling upon the pound Scots, amounting together to about the sum of L.60. The road from Inverness to the inn on the bank of the river of Urquhart, about 15 miles, was a grand undertaking: for a great way through the rocks of Abriechan, it required in many places the blast of gun-powder; besides the perseverance of the people, the county aid, and liberal subscriptions from the proprietors and gentlemen of the parish were bestowed. The modes of agriculture among the gentlemen are the same as in the low country. Sir James Grant has encouraged the improvement of his estate by donations of grass seeds to the smaller tenants: and he has built a lint mill, and gives similar

donations

tions of lint-seed; and the appearance of the people is much improved, by being dressed in linen of their own raising and manufacture.

There is plenty of limestone on Sir James Grant's estate, and he encourages its application as a manure by the free use of the cart-hire; and by quarrying the slope at his own expence, and calcining it also for the poorer tenants, for cultivating ground in the estate, at the rate of about 300 bushels to the acre, and from the expence of fuel, the expence of each bushel is estimated at 4d. More than 100 acres of waste have of late been gained; and the rents have been increased almost three-fold in the course of the last two years: yet the situation and comforts of the people have been so in the same time greatly ameliorated. The price of provisions is regulated by the market of Inverness. Unmarried farm servants have raised their wages to about L.6 sterling in the year; and women servants to half that sum: a day-labourer, without subservitals, gets 1s. The Castle of Urquhart has been already described. It may be inferred, from its being an object of so much importance in the regard of Edward, the monarch of England, that we are not well informed of the state and circumstances of society in ancient times. Its walls are still decorated with a considerable quantity of cut free-stone of a coarse texture and hard quality: but the conjecture is hopeless about where it was found, and by what means it was transported; when it is considered, that a gentleman now found it most convenient to import the cut stone for his house from the quarries on the coast of Duffus.



## NUMBER XXX.

## PARISH OF BOLESKIN.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE island of Great Britain is intersected by plains, or valleys, depressed almost to the level of the surrounding main, in four different tracks, from the one shore to the other. The first may be conceived along the southern side of the Cheviot hills, where Scotland borders with England, from the Solway Frith to the influx of the Tyne. The second lies along

the great canal from the Frith of Clyde to the estuary of the Forth. The third, beginning also from the shore of the Clyde, lower down at Dumbarton, stretches through the broadest and most central part of the kingdom, along the southern base of the Grampian mountains to Stonehaven on the eastern shore. The last is stretched from the Atlantic at Fort William, through the parishes of Kilmanivack, Boleskin, and Durris, to the Moray Frith at Inverness.

Imagination may easily conceive the Continent to have once extended entire to the northern extremity of the Orkney Isles, and the Pentland Frith to have been only a deep valley, similar to these, so little raised above the level of the sea, or composed of such yielding materials, as to have given way in some storm to the violence of the weighty surge, impelled by all the power of the western wind, rushing on unchecked from the American shore. The headlands, stretching out to each other from the opposite sides of the Frith, seem to suggest the idea of some violent disruption: thus Duncan's-bay Head projects a ridgy bottom, so high as to form a ripple, both by the flowing and ebbing tide, called *the Boars* *Duncan's-bay*, similar to the swell of the same name at the mouth of the river Indus: the Pentland Skerries still remain in the same direction, and are met by the Lowther Rock, covered only during the tide, projected from the island of South Rhonaldsha on the other side. In the same manner St. John's Head sends out a ridge which forms the breakers called *the merry men of May*, meeting a swell off Cantie Head, upon the opposite shore of the island of Walls: while the lofty cape of Dunnet frowns against its rival the Beary (the Berubium of Ptolomy), on the western end of the same island. The probability of such a junction is not less than that of Dover with the opposite coast of France. If the extreme rapidity of the tide, driving through the Pentland Frith, had ever been altogether stopped, as it is sometimes partially checked by the wind, there is no doubt but the sea must have risen higher and flowed farther in upon the shores of the Moray Frith than now.

The parish of Boleskin, with the lake of Ness upon its western side, occupies a section of the last of these valleys that have been described. Abertarff, a district of this parish, lies nearly on a level with the lake upon its southern end, as has been already noted: the other district, named Stratherick, may be conceived a valley parallel to the lake, about 300 feet above its level, and screened

rom its view by an intervening rocky ridge, rising still higher, and stretched the whole length of the lake. The side of this ridge, which faces the lake, rises to a great height, and with a steepness most perpendicular, from the very edge of the water; and save two or three small plots, admits not of cultivation throughout its whole length of 22 miles, from the church of Durris to the citadel of Fort Augustus. The road from Inverness to this fortress is cut at for more than 12 miles upon the side of this rocky steep, as far as the fall of Foyers. It has been formed by great labour, and at much expence, under the conduct of General Wade, who was then quartered in a slope of the mountain, thence distinguished by the spellation of *the general's hut*, the present station of the inn, about a mile distant from the fall. This road is not unpleasant riding, being hard, smooth, and level: it is frequently immersed in wood, of birch and hazle; but in general it is open enough to admit a view of the waters of the lake far below, waving their surface in gentle undulation towards the precipitous shore, and the summits of the lofty mountains towering high upon either of its sides. Above the zone of the woods, the mountains are reared up in sterile nakedness, the brown heath and grey rock but little diversified by a few small streams trickling down the steep. Sometimes the road is cut along, and sometimes around the rocky sides of the hill, forming on the one hand a black unsurmoutable wall, on the other an alarming precipice overhanging the deep lake, that even the stumbling only of the horse impresses the idea of inevitable destruction. This route is generally described as pleasant and mantic; yet the unvaried landscape, consisting of little besides a long narrow reach of the lake below, and the sky above, while the steepness of the mountain admits of no deviation from the path, impresses a languor, after proceeding a little way, with the idea of dereliction and restraint; for no habitation, no trace of the works of man, are seen, save the desolation of the castle of Urquhart, rising out of the water on the other side, which is but little relieved by a deserted church in ruins, and a lonesome burying ground, by which the road winds, near the summit of the ridge. In ancient times, it might have been the sequestered residence of one holy hermit, and in that regard might have been chosen for the situation of the parish church, of late more conveniently placed

the interior of the country, and more centrical upon the other side of this interposing ridge.

The common soundings of the lake of Ness are from 116 to 135 fathoms: in one place, they ran to 135. By floods or sudden thaw, it is raised about 10 feet above the lowest watermark. The depth even at the very sides would admit a ship of any burden to sail from the one end to the other. Though widening considerably towards its southern end, where it is about 2 miles in breadth, the sides are straight over its whole length, as the even banks of an artificial canal, save the bay where the river of Urquhart falls in. To accomplish its navigation by sails requires 3 days of moderate favourable wind, as the vessel must anchor during the dark, which excepting at the ends, in Urquhart bay, and the creek called the Horse-Shoe, can be only done at Aultsay and Portclair on the western, and at the influx of the Faragack and Feachlin on the southern side. Excepting an accidental blast from either of the glens, or an eddy squall from any of the more elevated summits of the enclosing ridges, the winds must always blow right along the lake; yet were the navigation between the seas completed, a passage could be formed along the margin of the lake, and the trade in weathers rendered certain and secure by the draught of horses.

This immense reservoir of water is distinguished by two peculiarities: drawn either from the lake or river, it is laxative to people who are not accustomed to drink it, and it has the same effect on horses unhabituated to its use. Such therefore at the town of Inverness are invariably conducted to another stream. Besides this, neither the lake nor river were ever known to be frozen, by the most intense cold experienced in a latitude so high as nearly the 58th degree. No chymical analysis has been attempted for investigating the causes of these qualities: when drawn either from the lake or river, it freezes as quickly as any other water: even in the carriage to any part of the town distant from the river, it is sometimes frozen by the way: yet during the most intense frosts, both the lake and river smoke; a thick fog hangs over them, mitigating the cold to some distance upon either side; and linens, stiffened by frost, are dipped in the river to be thawed. There is not the least degree of current in any part of the lake, and the river runs gently onwards to the Frith, never overflowing its banks, in a chan-

nel whose fall is scarcely 10 feet. There cannot be much difference, therefore, in the level between the fresh water and the salt; and without regarding the soundings by Mr. Scott and Capt. Orton, who did not reach the bottom with 500 fathoms, the depth of the lake is probably greater than that of the Frith. Both these properties may be therefore probably derived from the same causes in general, which produce hot springs, or from some unexplored connection with volcanic fire. This idea is countenanced by the extraordinary manner in which the lake was affected on the 1st of Nov. 1755, during the time of the awful earthquake at Lisbon. Raised above the surface, near the indraught of the river, the water flowed up the lake with vast impetuosity, and drove up more than 200 yards against the rapid current of the river Eoich, breaking on its banks in a wave about 3 feet high. It thus continued, in alarming agitation, to flow and ebb, for more than an hour. About 11 o'clock, a wave, higher than any of the rest, loaded with brush wood, drove up the river, and overflowed to the extent of 30 feet upon the bank. A boat near the General's Hut was three times dashed on shore, and twice carried back; the rudder at the second time was broken, the boat filled with water, the loading of timber dashed out, and left upon the shore. Although this commotion at the bottom of the lake affected the fluid so powerfully through all its depth, it was yet unable to shake the solid earth, through a mass but of equal height only with the water; for no degree of agitation was in any place perceptible on land.

The vale of Stratheric is separated from Laggan and Kingussie, on the banks of the Spey, by a wide and desert mountain. It is watered by a considerable streams: the Faragack, from its north-ern, and the Feachlin, from its southern end. It might be conceived, that this vale had been itself a lake, till its waters forced their passage down through the rocky mound to Loughness. The Faragack has torn the mountain sloping uniformly from its sum-mit to the base; the impending rugged rocky banks of the channel bear testimony of the violence of the disruption.

The Feachlin has been opposed by more solid materials, although its influx is only about two miles distant from the other. Wind-ing for 10 or 12 miles from the extremity of the glen, and in its progress collecting many streams from the mountain on the south or east, and grown into a river of no small considera-tion, its current turned

turned towards the lake forced its passage also through the intervening ridge. Just entering within its rocky jaws, it pours perpendicularly from the cliff about the height of 30 feet, in a form resembling the unequal columns of a great cathedral organ, into an abyss every way environed by uncouth and rugged masses of sable rock, to the height of more than 60 feet above its tumultuous surface, save the breach through which its course is continued, which is covered by a narrow stone bridge fully in the front of this thundering torrent, boiling in the cavern which itself has hollowed, in turbulent, foaming, and ceaseless ebullition; as if some vast subterranean fire glowed intensely underneath this horrible cauldron: its effect is greatly heightened by the dark red tinge which the river for the most part bears, from the peat soil of the mountain through which its several currents flow. Considerably farther within this sinuous chasm is the grand cataract, the celebrated fall of Foyers. A profile view of it may be easily obtained from the highway, where a wall of substantial masonry prevents the danger of falling over the verge of the gulph: but to gain a nearer view, and in the front, requires a guide a-slope the side of the profound steep, down to a grassy hillock, projected half across the chasm, which is readily by some neighbouring cottagers supplied. The greatness of the effect is even somewhat augmented by this perilous approach, which cannot be accomplished but by clinging from space to space to some straggling tree, or hanging by some bush, whilst the foot, unseen, is groping for a hold underneath. The river at times is descried at a vast distance below, increasing its tumult as it advances, struggling among the multiform masses of rock which embroil its course, and roaring against the opposing cliffs, which shoot rudely from the sides of its torn channel: meanwhile, the hoarse roar of the unseen cataract swells louder on the ear; the hoary vapour is beheld in turbulent eddies, and in rapid ascent over the gulph, as the dense smoke of some bursting volcano.

Gaining at last the lowest ledge of the rock, a pinnacle detached from, but every way environed by the craggy steep, which from thence seems unsurmountable, though scarcely lower than the middle of the fall, the attention is overpowered, and the astonished view arrested by this august object!

The river is beheld edgeways shot from a cleft, a resolute rapid column, about a yard in thickness, and 20 feet in height; its breadth upon

upon the upper side remaining still unseen, it dashes with so much momentum upon a slanting shelve of the rock as to be entirely divested of the appearance of the element of water in any of its forms, but forced into the semblance of furiously drifted snow; it hisses down the slanting steep, broad spreading as it drives into the unexplored profound, at the depth of 80 or 100 feet below the shelve by which the column is first broken, where clashing not in unison with deep roar above, it imperceptibly resumes its elemental form, and seems feebly to sifper off from the bottom of the rock through a pool that might be imagined to be of no uncommon depth; even the red tinge of the mountain soil, which was wholly dispelled as it drifted down the steep, is also unexpectedly restored.

The remaining part of its course is continued placidly for a short space between the wooded cliffs: it then meets the lake in a plain of no great extent, formed probably by the alluvion of its own current, as it is the only field upon the eastern border of this long expanse, decorated by the family seat and gardens of Mr. Fraser of Foyers, an agreeable, but seemingly a solitary residence.

In the contemplation of a scene so sublimely august, which, day after day, and year after year, continues its perennial turbulence and thunder, without rest or cessation, the feebleness of man, and the short-abiding power of mortal energy, is deeply impressed upon the mind; sentiments of reverence spontaneously arise for that Almighty Being who at the first arranged the springs of nature, and regulates for ever its unconscious, though varied, and most powerful exertion.

The soil is, in general, a light and gravelly loam; in some places moorish. The climate may be accounted, on the whole, rather severe than mildly temperate, throughout the greatest proportion of the year: yet in summer it is sometimes unpropitiously dry; and it would be reckoned early, were not the harvests generally retarded by rains which frequently begin to fall out about the equinox.

*State of Property.]*—The parish is partitioned among seven land-holders. It comprehends a part of the Lovat fortune, of the honourable Archibald Fraser, equal to L. 2101. 18s. 4d. Scots. Simon Fraser of Foyers Esq. holds L. 463. 13s. 4d. Simon Fraser of Faraline Esq. holds L. 82. 4s. 10d. James Fraser of Gortuleg Esq. holds L. 38. 13s. 11d. Captain Fraser of Knocky amounts to

**L.163** Scots. Captain Fraser of Ardachy, L.141. 17s. Scots. And Alexander Macdonald of Glengary Esq. L.308. 5s. 8d. Scots, in which the valuation of the property of the crown is included, being a farm, and part of the appointment of the Deputy Governor of Fort Augustus, and the ground occupied by the citadel itself; extending the whole valuation to the sum of L.3299. 13s. 1d. Scots. There are some of the lands in the personal occupation of the proprietors. The farms let to tenants are in general comprehended under a small extent of arable field; to which, however, there are some exceptions when the rent rises to above L.50 in the year. The average rent of the acre of the arable land may be estimated at 16s.; but the pasturage connected prevents it from being accurately ascertained.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church is now placed about 3 miles up the river above the fall, and about a mile eastward from the bank. The living, including the allowance for the communion, is L.105. The right of patronage is a pertinent of the Lovat estate. The appointment of the missionary resident at Fort Augustus, and the extent of his charge, has been mentioned in the preceding number. In the central parts of the parish, between the fall and Fort Augustus, the farmers hire a teacher for their children, by a small subscription among themselves. The conductor of the music employed in the public devotions of the church, and the poor, which make up a pretty long roll, have a provision arising from the donations made in the religious congregations of the people; who, except a few of the Roman Catholic communion, are all members of the Established Church; amounting to the number of 1402.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—The original name of the ground where Fort Augustus stands was KILLIE-CHUMIN, *the burial place of the Cumings*. The cause of this appellation is now wholly unknown. It may be conjectured, that, similar to I'Columbkill, the cemetery of the monarchs of several kingdoms, the consecrated ground of the chapel of Abertarff might have been appropriated by this ancient clan, during the period in which they numbered 14 titled chiefs, as the place of general interment.

The citadel, rather in a beautiful than in a strong situation, is seated on a narrow plain, commanded by pretty high grounds upon the south and north. It has the great river Eoich, pouring a deep and rapid flood into the lake, upon the one side; and the gentle Tarff,

tarff, gliding in a slender stream through the plain upon the other; Loughness washes the ramparts on the third side: they are composed of 4 bastions; and they afford accommodation for a garrison of 400 or 500 men. It was originally built about the 1730, and received its present name in compliment to the father of George III. Its destruction by the rebels in 1746 has been incidentally mentioned above. It has contributed somewhat to the improved police of the country. The little sloop which rides under its walls adds greatly to the scenery of such a mountainous landscape, and it establishes the advantages of the navigation of the lake.



## NUMBER XXXI.

## PARISH OF LAGGAN.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—Although this parish be the highest in Scotland, in its elevation above the level of the sea, yet its Gaelic name, properly NA-LAG, signifies *the hollow*, expressing the appearance of the face of the country, composed of deep and narrow valleys. It is separated from the parish of Boleskin on the north, by a vast and lofty ridge of almost inaccessible rock, named MONU-EIE, *the grey mountain*. From that quarter, therefore, it can only be approached by the military road from Fort Augustus to Stirling, which forms the continuation of the boundary of the province on the west; it is conducted over the mountain of Corryarioch to the inn of Garvamore, the farthest and most westerly habitation within the limits of the province. The road is formed along the western bank of the river Tarff, across its sources, to the summit of Corryarioch, towering far beyond, and above many an intermediate height; the road winds through stately trees in the deep groves of Inverisha, which are terminated, as the valley rises into the mountain, by lofty naked cliffs of picturesque and varied form: a number of torrents, streaming from the higher parts of the mountain, are poured with impetuosity over the precipice, and dashing down from shelfe to shelfe, broken with all the wild varieties of the rock, and foaming in their fall, exhibit some of the most romantic cascades that can be imagined. Some venerable pines

wave among the rocks, seeming to watch over the incessant murmur of the torrents as they hasten their confluence to the central rivulet, the farthest branch of the deep-roaring Spey; while wreaths of birch adorn the more gentle declivities, where the foundations of the precipices have shot into the bottom of the glen. The summit of the mountain, attracting many heavy volumes of mist, is generally involved in clouds, which the Alpine blast roll down in condensing fogs around the lower hills, with the chilling cold and penetrating damp of sleetly rain, mingled with snow, deeply impressing all the terrors of this dreary, though elevated solitude. If the summit can be attained with an unclouded sky, the landscape is immense and transportingly sublime; the whole horizon around is an arrangement of distant mountains, far beyond all possible enumeration, immeasurably extended to the Western Isles, and to the eastern shore; some tracts of country are generally concealed by intermediate clouds, through which the more loft hills raise their dun heads like islands in the deep, giving a noble expression to the immense extent of the lower world around, exhibiting a scene of boundless magnificence, lighted up under a azure heaven, and basking in the blaze of meridian day, enchanting for a time the mind, while it shares in the sublimity of a prospect, partaking so much of infinitude, and impressing the admiring imagination with its own relation to the universe, without boundary and without end.

The descent is more immediately precipitous in 17 traverses across the eastern face of the mountain to its bottom: at which the Spey having collected its infant streams into a fair but inconsiderable lake, winds eastward in growing majesty, progressive toward the German ocean; receiving from the Grampian mountains of the south, the river Masie, about the middle of the parish: which is bounded by the similar course of the Truim, from Drumnacatu at the east.

Parallel to the Masie, at the distance of 2 miles, the river Pattie holds an opposite course, towards the great lake of Lochlaggan, the environs of which form a separate district in the south-west extremity of the parish: the lake is of great depth, with bold rock shores rising into woody mountains. COILL-MORE, the great wood, the most considerable remain of the Caledonian forest, extends 10 miles along its southern side; the scene of many historical traditions

its waters, abounding with charr, and various kinds of trout, are discharged by the river Spean into the Atlantic ocean near Fort William. There are several smaller lakes: one bears the appellation of LOCH-NA-RIGH, *the king's lake*; all of them stored with large black trout of the most delicate kind.

The air, though moist and generally cold, is, upon the whole, pure and healthful. The climate is extremely variable, exhibiting difference strikingly perceptible at the distance of each 2 or 3 miles: it is often rain on one side of the river, while it is dry on the other.

The soil along the banks of the river, though rich, deep, and capable of producing as weighty crops as in the kingdom, is however but little productive, from the destructive influence of inundation, mildew, and frost. The higher lands on the declivities, though stony, produce more certain crops than the meadows on the plain, being ripened more early by the reflexion of the sun upon the rocks. The lands in the district of Lochlaggan, though higher, and in a climate still wetter than the banks of the Spey, are less liable to mildew and frost, from their being laid upon a bed of fine-stone rock.

*State of Property.*]—The Duke of Gordon, and Colonel Mac-  
erson of Cluny, possess the parish: the valued rent appertaining  
to his Grace is L.1202. 9d. and that to the Colonel is L.599 Scots.  
The land is occupied partly by gentlemen, holding farms from  
30 to L.100 sterling of rent, and by shepherds, who hold sheep-  
farms from L.60 to L.190 sterling of rent; the lower and most  
numerous class of tenants are the people, whose rents vary only  
from about L.3 to L.6 sterling. The rent of land, in general,  
seems to be on the rise: but the sheep farms only seem capable of  
bearing any considerable advance; although the value of such farms  
depends so much on the seasons, and on the markets, yet a high  
idea of their value is in general entertained: in the space only of  
a dozen years, the rent of one has advanced from L.30 to L.190.  
The sheep-farms are all on the estate of Cluny, and exceed not the  
number of 5: they at present support about 12,000. The other  
farms, stocked with black cattle, sheep, and horses, support about  
1000 sheep, 1600 cattle, and horses barely sufficient for labouring  
the ground. The best wethers sell at from 12s. to 16s.; those be-  
longing to the poorer tenants, from 7s. to 9s.; wool unwashed  
sells

sells about 8s. the stone; smeared wool, about 5s.; cows bring from L.4 to L.6; steers from L.3 to L.4; and horses of a small but hardy breed from L.5 to L.6. The mean quantity of meat produced in a temperate year is about 2450 bolls: but that is not sufficient for the support of the inhabitants. Only one third of that quantity was produced by the crop of 1782. The advantages of enclosures, and the comfort of commodious habitations, are not perceived; and the tenants, at their removal, are allowed the value of the dykes and buildings on their respective farms. There are in the parish 7 taylors, 6 weavers, 3 carpenters, 3 masons, and one blacksmith; but no shoemakers regularly bred: the common people make their own shoes.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The minister occupies a commodious farm, on the estate of the Duke of Gordon, near the church, which was rebuilt in a central situation in the year 1785. The glebe is let for L.12 of rent; and L.20 is allowed by the proprietors for the parsonage buildings. The right of patronage appertains to the Duke of Gordon. The stipend, which is L.70 sterling, is said to exhaust the tithes: but the proprietors of late, from personal regard to Mr. Grant, have promised to make it L.100 during the remainder of his incumbency. The parochial school in the midst of the parish is an appointment of L.16. 13s. 4d. sterling, with the customary fees and perquisites of office; the number of scholars from 50 to 80. The Society for propagating Christian Knowledge maintain two schools in the western wings of the parish. The provision for the poor arises only from the contributions of the people when in church. The members of the National Establishment are 262; and there are 250 of the Church of Rome.

*Miscellaneous Information.]*—In the midst of the Coill-mor is a place distinguished by the name of the ARD MERIGIE, *the heath for rearing the standard*. It has been held sacred from remote antiquity, as the burial place of 7 Caledonian kings; who, according to tradition, lived about the period when the Scots, driving northward of the Tay by the Picts, held their seat of government at Dunkeld. It is likewise, by tradition, represented as a distinguished place for hunting: and it abounded in deer and roe, which they were lately expelled by the introduction of sheep, with whom they never mingle. The kings, it is said, and their retinue, hunted on the banks of the lake for the greater part of almost every sum-

mer: which is rendered probable by its vicinity to the parallel roads of Glenroy, which must have been formed solely for the purpose of betraying the game into an impassable recess, and could not have been executed but by the influence of some of the first consequence and power in the state. In the lake are two neighbouring islands: on the largest, the walls remain of a very ancient building, composed of round stone laid in mortar, untouched by the mason's hammer; here their Majesties rested from the chase secure, and feasted on the game: the other, named ELLAN-NA-KUNE, *the island of dogs*, was appropriated for the accommodation of the hounds; and the walls of their kennel, of similar workmanship, also remain.

Near the midst of the parish is a rock 300 feet of perpendicular height; the area on the summit, 500 by 250 feet, is of very difficult access, exhibiting considerable remains of fortification; the wall, about 9 feet thick, built on both its sides with large flag-stones without mortar.

Near the eastern end of Lochlaggan, the venerable ruins of St. Kenneth's chapel remain, in the midst of its own consecrated burying ground, which is still devoutly preferred to the other.

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#### NUMBER XXXII.

#### PARISH OF KINGUISICH.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE Spey, on quitting the parish of Laggan, winds, in a variety of beautiful curves, through a level fertile meadow, intersecting the parish for its whole length, nearly 17 miles, to its extremity at the east. Its breadth from the banks of the river, extends to either hand almost 10 miles; but of this extent the vicinity only of the river, and the valleys along its tributary streams, are inhabited, the rest being a wilderness of mountain pasturage, where a few huts are thinly scattered, for the accommodation of those tending cattle in summer. These mountains extend southward to the banks of the Tay, and northward by the sources of the Findern, in the parish of Moy and Dalarossie, to the lake and the river of Ness. The name in its literal import signifies

ties the head of the fir wood; but the firs have retired to such a distance, that it has lost all right to that appellation. There are, however, several alder and willow trees interspersed on the banks of the Spey; and though parts of the rising grounds on the south are clothed in natural groves of birch and hazle, yet the country in general appears destitute of wood. The river Truim separates the south side of the parish from Laggan at the west; and the Feshie, holding a course nearly parallel for 15 miles through the Grampian hills, forms its boundary on the east. The extent between these is divided by the Tromie nearly into equal parts; but holding a shorter course, its stream is proportionally less, yet larger than the Gynag and Calder, considerable brooks sent into Spey from the north. From the windings of the river in the meadows of Kinguisie, it may be inferred, that its noted rapidity takes place only in a lower part of its course. The alluvion of Feshie, therefore, in an æra extremely remote, has deposited a bed of gravel at its influx, which has expanded the Spey into a lake called *Loch Inch*, about a mile in breadth, and almost two in length, which, with all the rivers that have been mentioned, contains trout and pike, salmon, and charr. Some years ago, the proprietors concerned in the lake laid out almost L.500 in making a cut through this bar; but, through want of sufficient declivity in the ground, the draining of the lake misgave; but the resurgitation at each swell of the river, upon the meadows, about its western end, has been in a great measure by this means taken off. The soil in the meadows is sandy slime, the sediment of the water, incumbent on a light loam, which rests on a bed of clay; and in the higher grounds, it is also in general a light loam, with a mixture of sand. This district, however, is but little adapted for the production of grain. Storms are frequent in every season, and frosts are uncommonly intense: they begin early in autumn, and continue late in the spring; and heavy falls of rains are frequent in the harvest months, so that the crops are always uncertain. From the great elevation of the country above the level of the sea, the climate is naturally cold; and though from this it might be regarded as healthy, yet the low meadow grounds have so little declivity, that every flood overflows them; the stagnation of the water renders them swampy, and produces noxious vapours. Hence rheumatisms, consumptions, and their kindred complaints, are frequent.

*State of Property.]*—The parish is possessed by 6 proprietors. The only family seat is that of William Macpherson Esq. of Invereshie, pleasantly situated on a rising ground, near the skirt of a wood above Lochinch, and as its name imports, at the influx of the Feshie into the Spey: his valued rent in the parish, including Killyhunty and Ballnespick, is L.691. Clunie, Benchar, and Invernahaven, on the banks of the Spey, with Phoiness and Eterish on those of the Truim, the estate of James Macpherson of Belville Esq. amount to the valued rent of L.461. 13s. 4d. Scots. Land in the district of Inch, appertaining to Mackintosh of Mackintosh, amounts to L.160 Scots. Major George Gordon's estate of Invertromie is L.80 Scots. Colonel Macpherson of Cluny has the lands of Noods and Bialledbeg, L.273. 6s. 8d. And the rest of the parish appertains to the Duke of Gordon, valued at L.1763; making the whole valuation of the parish equal to L.3929 Scots.

The cultivated farms are in general of inconsiderable extent: and the habitations mean black earthen hovels, darkened by smoke, and dripping upon every shower. Barley, oats, rye, and potatoe, are the produce of the cultivated ground; but the quantity obtained is not sufficient for the support of the inhabitants. Black cattle is their primary object, for the payment of their rents and for other necessaries. The whole number of sheep does not exceed 7000: part of them, and of their wool, with a few goats and horses reared in the hills, are also sold. Blacksmiths and weavers excepted, there are few mechanics of any kind: there being no village, they have no centre of traffic, nor place of common resort, so that a variety of necessaries must be brought from the distance of more than 40 miles. The wool which might be manufactured in the country must be sent by a long land carriage to buyers invited from another kingdom; and flax, which might prove a source of wealth to both landlord and tenant, must be neglected, because people skilled in the various proceſs of its manufacture are not collected into one neighbourhood.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—It was observed, that upon the establishment of the presbyterian government, the presbyteries of Elgin, Aberlaur, and Abernethie, made only one. In the year 1707, Elgin was disjoined; and in two years thereafter, the other two were also separated into their present independent jurisdictions: and, in the present arrangement, Kinguisich makes the first parish in

in the presbytery of Abernethie. The stipend, lately augmented, is L.100 sterling. The rent of the glebe is L.12: and as there is no manse, the landlords pay L.15 sterling for the hire of a house to the minister; who resides on a commodious farm at a little distance from the church, which has been lately rebuilt in a very neat and handsome fashion. The right of patronage appertains to the Duke of Gordon. The salary of the school is L.11. 6s. 8d. sterling and L.2 as clerk of the session, with the concomitant fees, and the perquisites of that office: the number of scholars varies from 20 to 50. The poor on the parish roll amount to more than 50; and the only provision for their necessities is the contributions of the people in their assemblies for social worship: they are all of the national Church, amounting to the number of 1803 souls.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—There are some Druid circles, which bear testimony of the many generations which have succeeded each other, in this part of the country. The remains of the Roman encampment, and of the Priory of Kinguisie, have been already noticed. The green mount, on which the ruins of the barrack remain, rises on a marshy plain to the height of 60 feet; the area of its summit measures 360 by 180 feet. It is supposed to be wholly artificial: and some of the old people mention, that, on sinking the well within the barrack, planks of wood were found laid across each other at equal distances, from near the surface to the base. It was originally the situation of the Castle of Ruthven, the seat of the Cumings, lords of Badenach. After the rebellion, in the year 1715, it was purchased by government; and a spacious handsome barrack was erected, consisting of two buildings placed parallel, and two bastions in the diagonal angles, connected by the ramparts: it could have accommodated 2 companies of men and several horses. The party quartered here joined General Cope on his route to Inverness in August 1745, leaving only Serjeant Molloy and a dozen men; who, in September thereafter, maintained the barrack against 200 rebels: for which gallant defence he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. In February 1746, being again besieged by 300, under General Gordon of Glenbucket, and some cannon, for 3 days he made such a good defence as procured the most honourable capitulation: the buildings were then destroyed by fire; and its desolated walls now only remain.

Several years ago a mine was opened, where some pieces of very rich

rich silver ore were dug up; but no attempt has been made to ascertain whether it be worth working, or not.

The people are in general distinguished by their moderation in religious opinions. Instances of theft are very uncommon: more flagrant crimes are now unknown. They are brave, but quarrelsome: they are hospitable, but addicted to drunkenness: they are polite, but little to be depended on for the sincerity of their professions. Their genius is more inclined to martial enterprise, than to the assiduous industry and diligent labour requisite to carry on the arts of civil life.



### NUMBER XXXIII.

#### PARISH OF ALVIE.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE parishes of Laggan and Kinguisie, with Alvie, comprise the whole district distinguished by the appellation of Badenaugh, extending from Corryarioch at the west to Craig Elachy at the east, upwards of 40 miles. The epithet *baden* is familiar in the names of places on the Continent, occurring twice in the cantons of Switzerland, and thrice in the circles of Germany, probably of similar import in their languages to that of the Gaelic, in which *BADEN* signifies *bushy*, and *AUCH*, *level ground*. On the north side of the Spey, the parish of Alvie is continued down the river from Kinguisie for 8 miles; and below this extent, it stretches down the river on both sides for two miles farther. The inhabited country, from the north bank of the river to the bottom of the mountain, is nearly 2 miles in breadth; and on the southern side, it stretches back into the Grampian hills, along a valley more than a mile in breadth, through which the river of Fessie winds its course, to the length of 6 miles of peopled country. The hills into which it extends, for many miles beyond any habitation, are extremely barren, many of them rocky, and raised to such a height, that vegetation fails upon their summits. The interjacent valleys indeed produce a rich abundant pasture in summer; but in winter they are generally inaccessible. The lower arable part of the country consists of a light dry soil, lying on a sandy gravel, and much encumbered with stone, producing weighty crops in a

wet season, but exceedingly parched in dry weather. The climate is healthful and dry, and less snow falls than at the distance of a few miles to either hand, occasioned probably by its lying at an equal distance from the east and west seas; yet the mildews frequently injure the crops both of oats and bear. The early or late frosts generally hurt the potatoe to such a degree, as to be a great discouragement to the cultivation of that useful root; and it is seldom that more than a third part of the crop of pease, which are only raised on land that has been limed, can be saved. The people, however, attain to a good old age; several beyond 80 years: the last minister died at the age of 101, discharging the duties of his function until within 6 months of his death.

*State of Property.]*—The only family seat in the parish is the elegant and spacious mansion of Bellville, lately built by the translator of the works of Ossian, the property now of his heir, James Macpherson Esq. valued in the cefs books at L.384 Scots. The Duke of Gordon's estate amounts to the valuation of L.525. 13s. 4d. Kinraig and Dunaughton, the property of Mr. Mackintosh of Mackintosh, amounts to L.350. Dalraddie, appertaining to William Macpherson Esq. of Invereshie, amounts to L.132. 6s. 8d. And Sir James Grant of Grant, for the feu-duties of Dale-four, has a valuation of L.2 Scots: making the whole parish equal to the valued rent of L.1394 Scots.

The inferior tenants are poor, and their habitations wretchedly comfortable; their farms are small, from L.2 to L.6 sterling of yearly rent, and their land may be let from 5s. to 10s. the acre. The crops, consisting of oats, rye, barley, and potatoe, are in general sufficient for the subsistence of the inhabitants. The parish abounds with fir, birch, alder, and a few oaks; carried by the poorer people 40 miles to the nearest market towns, in small parcels, and sold to procure the few necessaries they desire. There is only one farm stocked wholly with sheep; the whole of that flock in the parish amounts to 7000; the black cattle to 1104; the horses to 510; and there are 101 ploughs. The real rent does not exceed L.800 sterling: and L.100 yearly may be obtained by the sale of the wood.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church, manse, and greater part of the glebe, are situated in a green peninsula within a lake, which is half a mile in breadth, and a whole mile in length. It is a pleasant

pleasant situation in summer; but so extremely cold in winter, that the name of the parish in the original Gaelic is supposed to be ALLEIBH, *the cold island*; although, from the rocky mountain brow skirting the north side of the valley, it is more likely to have been from AIL, *a rock*, similar to the parish of Alves in Moray, and Alva in Banff-shire. The church is so incommodiously placed in the eastern quarter of the parish, from which it is still farther detached by its peninsular situation, that public worship is frequently performed in the church of the district of Inch, in the lower end of Kinguisie, being much more contiguous to the greater part of the people of Alvie. Although the church was placed in the peninsula during the times of popery, yet this inconvenience could not be felt during that establishment, as there were 3 other chapels in the parish; that of St. Eata at Kinrara, St. Drostan's at Dunàughton, and the chapel of Macluach at Bellville. As the church in a short time must be rebuilt, perhaps the more central situation of St. Drostan's chapel ought then to be preferred.

The stipend, including the communion allowance, is L.70, with a glebe nearly 2 acres arable, and summer pasture for one cow. The proprietors allow L.15 for keeping the parsonage buildings in repair. The right of patronage pertains to the family of Gordon. The salary of the parochial school is L.10 sterling; and as session clerk, the allowance is only the dues of the registration of baptisms, and the publication of the purposes of marriage; for the first, 1s. 6d. and 1s. for the last: the number of scholars about 30, with the customary fees. The Society for propagating Christian Knowledge maintain a school also in the parish, with an appointment of L.9, to which is added, by a bequeathed endowment, the sum of L.5, for discharging the office of catechist in the quarter of that establishment. The number of the poor is 25: and the contributions for their support about L.3 yearly. The people are all of the national religion, and amount to the number of 1011 souls.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people have little idea of trade or manufactures, excepting a considerable quantity of a coarse kind of flannel called *plaiding*, or blankets, sold for about 10d. the ell of 39 inches. Although all disputes are settled by the justice of the peace, without recourse to the sheriff, or other judge, yet, from the difficulty experienced by the lower class in securing a subsistence, their honesty or veracity are not always to be depended

on: they have no inclination to leave the spot of their nativity: and if they can obtain the smallest pendicle of a farm, they reject entering into any service; and are extremely averse to that of the military. They are fond of dram-drinking: and squabbles are not infrequent at burials or other meetings. Few of the older people, can read: and they are rather ignorant of the principles of religion. There are 2 retail shops, 6 weavers, 4 taylors, 2 blacksmiths, and two who make the brogue shoes worn by the poorer people. The rivers and the lake afford trout, salmon, and pike: the salmon are killed by the spear, and caught by the rod of the angler. It is supposed the trout of the lake do not visit Spey by the brook which it discharges, as they are of a better quality than those of the river. The great road from Inverness to Edinburgh is conducted up the north side of the Spey for the whole length of the parish; it passes through a number of little heaps, or piles of stone and earth, opposite to the church: the most conspicuous one was lately opened; the bones entire of a human body were found in their natural order, with two large hart horns laid across.

St. Vn. Spey

NUMBER XXXIV.

PARISH OF DUTHEL.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE river Spey, on getting clear of the parish of Alvie, forms the boundary of the counties of Moray and Inverness. A part of the last county, still stretching down for 7 miles along the south side of the river, and for the breadth of 4 miles back to the bottom of the mountains, is distinguished by the name of the parish of Rothiemurchus, although it has been a part of Duthel since 1625, upwards of 170 years. From the borders of Alvie on the north side of the river, where the county of Moray meets with Inverness, Duthel extends down the river for 14 miles; and from the influx of the Dulnan, it extends backward along both banks of this rapid stream for almost 16 miles, near its sources to the north-west, in the mountainous desert which is interposed between the Spey and Findern, separating this parish from that of Moy and Dalarossie on the north. It was once distinguished by a Gaelic appellation, which signified the *valley of heroes*: its

modern

modern name, applying to the course of the Dulnan, which winds through a valley of almost 1000 acres, imports *the excellent date*. The foil towards the lower end of this district, which is widened into a plain of several miles, is rich and deep, but frequently overflowed by the Dulnan, which in the original signifies *floody*. Towards the upper end, and distant from the river, although shallow, it is fertile throughout. The skirts of the hills are clothed with fir, birch, and alder; beyond which is the naked waste, and the brown heath. In the Gaelic, *ROTHEMURCHUS* signifies *the great plain of fir*. Although some parts near the Spey be of a deep and fertile foil, yet it is in general shallow. Its mountains beyond the forest extend backwards to Athol and Breamar on the south. The climate of the whole parish is extremely healthful: the common distempers are probably occasioned by imprudent changes of warmer clothing for the Highland garb.

*State of Property.*]—The district of Duthel appertains to Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart. It is valued in the cess books of Moray at L. 861. 17s. 8d. Scots. The number of its arable acres is 2183, all under corn and potatoe, excepting a few under turnip, cabbage, and sown graft: they are managed by 105 ploughs. There are besides, in natural pasturage and wood, 2467 acres, and in moor and peat earth 4650, exclusive of the mountainous waste. Its real rent may be nearly L. 1100 sterling. The only articles of export are black cattle, of which the district supports 1029; and sheep, which amount to 3424; and besides these there are also 315 horses.

The whole district of Rothiemurchus is the property of John Peter Grant Esq, valued in the cess books of the county of Inverness at L. 495 Scots. Its real rent amounts to about L. 300 sterling, and as much may be drawn yearly by the sale of timber. From the number of people employed in its manufacture, an importation of grain is required for this district: but that of Duthel supplies its own inhabitants with provisions. The black cattle in Rothiemurchus amount to the number of 180, and sheep to 2300, and the horses to 95.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—The value of the living, both glebes excluded, is L. 105 sterling. The residence is at the church of Duthel only: public worship is performed but each third Sunday at Rothiemurchus. The right of patronage appertains to Sir James Grant. The salary, and perquisites of office, in the parochial school, amount nearly

nearly to L. 12 in the year: the number of scholars about 30. There are two schools established by the Society for Christian Knowledge. In the district of Rothiemurchus, the appointment is L. 10 sterling, and the perquisites drawn in the country are valued at L. 5 more: the number of scholars about 30. In the Duthel district, the appointment is L. 9, with a few conveniences furnished by the tenants. The number of poor in the whole parish is 29; and the contributions made by their neighbours in both churches are about L. 8 yearly. The whole inhabitants are of the Established Church, amounting to 1110.

*Miscellaneous Information.* ]—There are several chalybeate fountains: that at Auchterblair has been found of use in gravelish complaints. The people are extremely industrious in the cultivation of their possessions. The country distinguished by the appellation of Strathspey begins where Duthel borders with Alvie, at a lofty rocky precipice called Craigelachy, the rock of alarm, the war-cry of the clan Grant, and a motto in their armorial coat, distant almost 40 miles from a similar precipice of the same name, where the parish of Knockando borders with Rothes. Near the centre of the district of Rothiemurchus, there is a mountain of limestone, and plenty of fuel in the country. In this quarter are also two small lakes; and by the romantic situation of the surrounding hills, are formed 5 very remarkable echoes. In one of them, named Loch-nellan, the island lake, are the walls entire of a very ancient castle.

#### NUMBER XXXV.

#### *P ARISH OF ABERNETHY.*

*Situation, Soil, Climate.* ]—THE river Spey, expanded to its greatest apparent magnitude, glides onward in a smooth unruffled course from Rothiemurchus along the northern border of the district of Kinchardine in the sheriffdom of Inverness, which is continued on the southern side of the river till it meets that of Moray near the middle of Abernethy, the lower end of which falls again within the county of Inverness, which stretches across from the parish of Cromdale, till it borders on the county of Banff in the parish

of Kirkmichael, where there is a point at which the three counties meet.

KINIE-CHAIRDIN, in the Gaelic, signifies *the tribe of friends*: and Abernethy, where the church of that district is placed, denotes *the influx of the Nethy into the Spey*. These two districts extend the parish 15 miles along the banks of the Spey; and it is nearly 12 miles to its southern border, in the extremities of the valleys of Glenlochy and Glenbruin, and the sources of the Nethy, which intersects the parish for the whole length of its course; it is only a brook in dry weather, but it is swelled by rain to such consideration, as to float down the timber to the saw-mills or to the Spey. There are several lakes in the parish: that of Glenmore is nearly circular, about 2 miles in diameter; it occupies the middle of an aged forest of firs, the largest and best timber in Scotland; it discharges a stream into Spey through a course of 6 miles, which having been deepened and straightened, and a sluice and dam constructed, forming at pleasure an artificial flood, by which masts for the vessels even of the navy, and the heaviest logs, are navigated into the Spey, which conveys them onwards to the Garmach dock-yard. In this quarter is a deep hollow in a mountain; the bottom, of inconsiderable extent, forms a lake, neither taking in nor emitting any stream; but the rocky banks rise around to a great height, and are closely clothed with the ever-verdant pine, by the reflection of which the water is always seen of the deepest green colour, in every possible situation: it is stored with abundance of fat trout, which glitter in the same hue while viewed within the mound of this singular cavity. The mountains of CAIRNGORUM, *the blue mountains*, rise to a very conspicuous elevation on the southern boundary of the parish: they are never wholly free from snow; the forests cannot extend themselves to a great height on their sides, nor a tree rear its head within the region of the cold; even pasturage itself fails, and their rocky summits are covered with a downy coat of yellow sapless moss: from them the prospect is stretched over half the kingdom, from the mountains of Perthshire to the Caithness plains, and from the shores of Buchan to the sources of the Spey. The eye, accustomed to flowery pastures and waving harvests, is astonished at the appearance and properties of mountainous regions: yet these constitute a great part of the earth; and he that has never seen them must live unacquainted with much of the face of nature, and

and with one of the great scenes of human existence. The majestic features of the uncultivated wilderness, and extensive prospects of nature, gained from the lofty brows of rocky mountains, yield an expansion of fancy and a native elevation of thought, accompanied with impressions interesting and solemn, leaving on the memory traces of an entertainment serious and sublime.

The arable ground in the parish bears but a small proportion to the uncultivated: a great part of the surface is covered with wood, much more is rock, hill, and mountain: part of the arable soil is thin and dry, part wet and cold, and part kindly and deep: a stretch of 3 miles, containing many hundred acres of this fertile quality, along the bank of the Spey, is often overflowed. The air and climate become less genial as the ground rises towards the mountain, which occasion much frost and cold: but in healthfulness it is not exceeded by any part of the kingdom.

*State of Property.*—The district of Kinchardine, with all the wood, is the property of the Duke of Gordon. The particulars of the contract between his Grace and Mess. Osbourn of Hull, and Dodsworth of York, for the marketable timber in the forest of Glenmore, have been already mentioned in the first number of this chapter: it only remains to be added here, that his Grace has also let to this company a considerable farm in the skirts of the forest, for their accommodation in the management of the timber; in the agricultural operations they have adopted the modern practice of the country. In the cess books of the county of Inverness, Kinchardine stands valued at L.400 Scots.

The district of Abernethy appertains to Sir James Grant Grant, Bart. The valuation of the Inverness division is L.90 6s. 8d. and the Morayshire valuation amounts to L.750. 9s. extending the valued rent of the whole parish to the sum of L.169 16s. Scots. The real rent of the Abernethy district, exclusive of the revenue from the sale of the wood, is about L.1200 sterling. There are some farms in this part of the parish in a high degree of improvement, having substantial and commodious buildings, sufficient enclosures, and fields properly cultivated by able cattle, with implements of the best form, and brought to the highest state of productiveness by lime manure and green crops. The higher part of the parish might be also much improved, particularly by the application of lime, which the vicinity both of the quarry and

fuel solicit to provide: but the lands are let in run ridge, and without any certain lease, and every imagination of improvement will be thereby instantaneously and completely quashed. The mode of reparation within the reach of these poorer tenants is to overstock the summer pasturage, nor the winter forage, in greater numbers of sheep and cattle than can be kept in good condition. The productions of the cultivated land are chiefly black-peas, and barley, rye, and potatoe. The crop is always precarious, and frequently misgives to a very distressing degree. Deducting feed, and corn for the horses; the whole produce amounts to 1000 bolls, at an average of years; about 1½ bolls to each inhabitant, or provision only for six months of the year.

The revenue arising from the forest in the district of Abernethy, extended over 10,000 acres, is of great consideration. An uninterrupted manufacture of this timber hath been carried on for more than 60 years: though the wood, therefore, be in a very thriving state, it does not acquire the bulk, or hardness, or quantity of roods, which is found in timber of more mature age. It is yet remembered in the country, since the only mode that was known of taking deals, was, by splitting the timber with wedges, and trimming the boards with the adze or the ax; and an upper room in Castle-Grant is floored with deals of this kind, never smoothed by the plane. In those days, the landlord got only a merk (1s. 1½d. sterling) in the year, for as much timber as a man could in this mode manufacture. By small gradations of 1s. 8d. and 3s. 4d. it had risen to 5s. 6d. about the year 1730, when the York Building Company purchased the timber of the woods of Abernethy, to the amount of nearly L. 7000 sterling. Great indeed was their beginning: every kind of implement of the best form, 120 work-horses, waggons, elegant wooden houses, saw-mills, and an iron foundery, surprising novelties in the country. They had a commissary of provisions and forage, with a handsome appointment. They imparted much knowledge to the people, and taught them dexterity in many operations. Besides the saw-mills which they constructed, and the roads which they formed through the woods, Mr. Aaron Hill, the poet, the clerk to this establishment, first shewed the mode of binding 3 or 4 score of spars into a platform, by passing a rope through a hook of iron at both ends of each, thereby forming a raft of 2 or 4 lengths of the timber, on which also a quantity

of deals or other wood is laid, to the value in whole of L.10 or L.20 sterling, and navigated down the river by a man seated at each end with an oar. Before this, they could only carry down a very small quantity of timber, bound together by a cord, conducted in a very hazardous manner, by a man seated in a vessel made of a hide, in a cylindrical or rather conical form, its inside extended by hoops of wood. It was managed by a paddle, and the timber tied to the conductor's leg by the noose of a rope, to be slipped as occasion required, that he might return behind the raft, to set it free from any shallow. This vessel the man carried home upon his shoulders by land, as the tackle of the rafts are yet brought back. Tradition relates, that this establishment were the most extravagant set ever known in the country, that their wasteful prodigality ruined themselves, and in part corrupted others. Their profusion was frequently displayed in bonfires of whole barrels of tar; and entire hogsheads of brandy were broached among the people, by which five men in one night died. It is likely, however, that a plan, wisely concerted for conciliating the favourable regard of the natives, might appear as astonishing wastefulness, among poor and simple Highlandmen, and, like other marvellous relations, might be exaggerated in the succeeding repetitions of it.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The stipend, lately augmented, is L.10*5*. The right of patronage belongs to the family of Grant. At Abernethy, the church is a neat well-finished building; that of Kinchardine, at the distance of 8 miles, is also in good condition. There is a burying ground at each, inclosed by a triple fence, a wall, hedge, and a belt of wood. The establishment of the parochial school, exclusive of the fees, is L.11. 2*s*. *d*. and the perquisites of the office of session clerk. The Society for Christian Knowledge have established a school in Kinchardine, with an appointment of L.9; and he has the best school-house in the Highlands. The parish is likewise accommodated with a catechist, by the royal bounty. The contributions made in the assemblies for social worship in behalf of the poor, amount to about L.6 sterling, not sufficient to furnish them in shoes half the year. They are supported by the tenants, in begging from house to house; and in this mode 100*b* bushels of meal are distributed, supposed at a peck weekly, or 3 bushels in the year, from each tenant. The whole of the inhabitants, amounting to 1769, are of the national Church.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people are sagacious, well informed, frugal, very sober, and loyal to a degree that cannot be passed. Political or religious fanaticism have got no footing among them; neither misled by the doctrines of those vagabond fanatics that infest the coast, nor misled by the tenets of political pamphlets: they are only dissatisfied with the mode in which they are by the landlords obliged to hire their farms. Chrystals of some blue, similar to the kind at Bristol, are sometimes found about the bottom of the mountains of Cairngorm. They are for the most part found by chance, though some pretend to know the vein where they may be found by digging; yet it is an employment by no means worth following. The Red Castle, the ancient seat of the耳mings, has been described above.



## NUMBER XXXVI.

## PARISH OF CROMDALE.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—ALTHOUGH a wing of the county of Inverness might without design be stretched farther down upon the south than upon the north bank of the Spey, yet the disposition of the two counties in the parish of Cromdale appears to be the result of contrivance, merely arbitrary and political.

Cromdale originally was three unconnected parishes. Inveralan in the eastern border of Duthil, and on the north bank of the Spey, was parted but unequally between both counties. Cromdale itself, within the jurisdiction of Inverness, extends farther down on both banks of the Spey: below which, Advie, the third of the original parishes, is continued to Knockando on the north, and to Inver-

on on the south bank of the river; extending the present parish of Cromdale to 9 miles in length on the southern side of the river, and 18 upon the other. Its greatest breadth is 10 miles, from Arkmichael in the county of Banff to the castle and lake of Loch-

Dorb, on the bank of which the counties of Nairn, Inverness, and Moray, meet.

The soil is in general thin and dry, with the exception of the banks on the banks of the river, which in natural fertility are deemed equal to the fields along the shore of the Frith. The cli-

mate is allowed to be extremely wholesome. While epidemical distempers are very rare, instances of longevity as far as go years are many, and not a few get beyond that extreme term of human existence.

*State of Property.]*—The whole parish is the property of Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart.

|                                                                             | L.      | S. | D. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----|----|
| The valued rent of the district of Inverallan in the county of Inverness is | 474     | 6  | 8  |
| That of Cromdale in the same county                                         | 949     | 14 | 6  |
|                                                                             | <hr/>   |    |    |
|                                                                             | L. 1424 | 1  | 2  |
|                                                                             | <hr/>   |    |    |
| In Moray the valuation of Inverallan is                                     | 182     | 10 | 10 |
| And of Advie is                                                             | 862     | 13 | 0  |
|                                                                             | <hr/>   |    |    |
|                                                                             | L. 1045 | 3  | 10 |

Extending the valuation of the whole parish to the sum of L. 2469 5s. Scots. The real rent at present may be estimated about L. 2000 sterling.

The family seat of Castle-Grant rises on an eminence near the middle of the parish, on the north side of the river. The body of the house is 4 stories in height; its northern front makes 3 sides of a quadrangle, having lower wings added to the length of the opposite sides. The original front towards the south is also elegant though the workmanship of the 15th century. The accommodation consists of 20 handsome bed-chambers, exclusive of the public rooms, the ground floor, the wings, and garrets. The paintings in the dining room, which is a magnificent hall, 47 by 27 feet, and of a proportionable height, are, a portrait of Charles I. and Queen Henrietta, by Vandyke—The Virgin presenting her infant son to the temple, and offering her sacrifice—The aged Simeon, etc. with the sight of his infant Lord, by Caracci—A full length Magdalene, by Guido—A half length also, copied by Clark from Guercino—The Marriage of Joseph and Mary; the Adoration of the Wise Men of the East; Henry IV. of France taking leave of his Queen, by Rubens—Pygmalion and the Statue, by Poussin—Ruins at Rome, by Sanini—Head of Achilles, by Hamilton—large Landscapes—The landing of Æneas in Africa; Dido flying

with *Æneas* from the Storm; by Plymor—Family Portraits by Kneller, West, Ramsay, Allan, and Miss Reid—Copies of the Portraits of *Guercino*, *Caracci*, *Angelo*, and *Fordano*, by Clark at Rome—Still Life, Basketmaker, and Milkwoman.

The paintings in the drawing room, a half-length of *Magdalene*, by *Guido*—*Venus* mourning for *Adonis*, by *Guercino*—The celebrated painting by *Hamilton* of *Achilles* mourning over *Patroclos*, attended by *Briseis*, *Chriséis*, and chiefs of Greece: the prints of this painting, which are not uncommon, display much of its expression—Copy by Clark of the *Baptism of Constantine* by *Volteria*—Eight small paintings in a frame, by *Vandyke*—A pencil drawing of *Charles I.* and his Queen, from *Vandyke's* original—A copy of *Guercino's* *Persian Sibyl*—*Andromache* offering sacrifice to *Hector's* Shade, by *Morison* of *Rosybank*—The Saviour on the Cross—Monks in a Cave—Family Portraits.

The paintings in the different bed-chambers—Copy by *Clarke* of *Guercino's* *Apostle Peter*—Three sea pieces, by *Vandermere*—*The Holy Family*, by *Paragino*—two Paintings of the Civil Wars, by *Burguiong*—Several Portraits, by *Sir Peter Lely*—Two Landscapes, by *Ponfract*—*Mars* and *Vulcan*, an Italian drawing—*The Resurrection of Lazarus*—*Adam* and *Eve*—*St. Veronica*—*The Judgment of Paris*—*Niobe* and her Children.

In the hall are 30 portraits, by *Watt*, of gentlemen of the name of *Grant*, most of them exhibiting a true likeness of the original.

In the stair-case are, a Lady dressing, by *Titian*—*Danaë* receiving the shower of gold, by *Corregio*—*Venus* and *Adonis*, by *Clark*, from *Lucas Fardano*—An Encampment, by *Bassau*—A Highlander, a Piper, and an old Woman, by *Watt*.

The house commands a pretty extensive and pleasing landscape. Southward the deep forest of *Abernethy*, its broad dark-green plain encroaching on the dusky side of the lofty *Cairngorm*, the pale rolling cloud seizing at times its summit, equalling its peerless elevation with the humbler hills, and the mountain anon discharging the hovering vapour, in lingering detachments, resumes its proud preeminence, and looks down upon its neighbours; spread eastward, lies the wide-bending cultivated plain of *Cromdale*, its green level border illuminated by the blue-rolling river; and on the north and west, an irregularly curved range of hill displays upon its side the verdant mantle of flourishing plantation. The park itself is of

great

great extent, diversified with the agreeable variety of thicket, grove, and forest, corn-field, and meadow; a double line of tall trees extends a cool shade over a long lane, by the lofty canopy of their intermingled foliage; impervious to the summer sun and the lighter shower: the trim garden, the ornamented shrubbery, and several pleasant ridings, may suggest a general idea of the environs of this respectable mansion, the extent of which may be conceived by the compass occupied by the wood, nearly 4000 acres.

About half the number of farms are rented at L.7, L.20, or L.25 sterling, exclusive of some late improvements, and a few small lots for the accommodation of the labourers about the castle. The other half rent at or above L.50 sterling, managed in the most approved system: the horses and cattle of a fine brood and figure, the implements of the best construction, and the buildings of the most substantial masonry and commodious form.

At the distance of nearly two miles westward of the castle, is the village of Grantown. The first house was built in the year 1766, at that time in the midst of a pretty extensive uncultivated moor. It is built upon leases of 190, or ten nineteens of years, on an extent of 21 by 460 yards; rent free for the first 5 years, and 5s. yearly for the succeeding 14; for the second period of 19 years, 10s. yearly; growing to 11s. 8d. during the third; and to 15s. during the fourth; and L.1 thereafter for the duration of the lease. The village, containing about 400 souls, is regularly constructed; the street 56 feet broad, and the great square 180 by 700 feet in length, decorated by a handsome town-house, for the accommodation of the justice of peace and baron courts. A brewery was from the first established: and a clause of the leases prohibits the vending of spirituous liquors without the written permission of the proprietor. A dozen of retail shops increase the movement of business; and weavers of wool, flax, and stocking manufactures, taylors, shoemakers, carpenters, masons, and blacksmiths, and two bakers, with a regularly bred and skilful surgeon, complete the accommodation of a very populous country around. The land improved about the village lets at 12s. the acre; to which the proprietor himself has added an extent of 60 acres in its vicinity improved by one year's fallowing the moor, and the manure of 60 bolls, or 240 firlots, of lime to each acre. In the environs of the village, there is a pretty extensive bleachery, both of cloth and yarn;

yarn; also a well-constructed flax-mill; the operations of both conducted at present by a gentleman a native of Ireland. The village possesses every inland advantage in the midst of a great and populous country; store of peat fuel, wood, lime, slate, and stone, with the command of a stream of excellent water.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—The situation of the church is central, on the south bank of the Spey, in the wide semicircular plain of Cromdale, which, in the original, expresses this situation; it is a modern neat well-finished building. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, equal to that of Duthel and Abernethy, is L.10*0s.* Part of the glebe, which still remains in what was the parish of Advie, together with the part at the present residence, might be let for nearly L.9*0s.* of rent. The patronage is the right of the family of Grant. The salary of the parochial school, which is near the church, is L.1*1s.* 2*s.* gdv. sterling, and the emoluments of the office of session clerk, about L.4*0s.* sterling, besides the fees of education. There is also a school established in Grantown, which, exclusive of the fees from nearly 70 scholars, for education in French, Latin, writing, arithmetic, and reading English, is an appointment of L.2*5s.* yearly; of which L.1*0s.* arises from a bequeathed endowment under the care of the presbytery, L.1*0s.* by the Society for Christian Knowledge, and L.5*0s.* the gratuity of Sir James Grant. There is also in the village, a private school-mistress, where girls and children receive the rudiments of their education. Of late, also, an orphan hospital has been established in Grantown, by a share of the fund bequeathed by the late Lady Grant of Monymusk for the purposes of charity. This fund was considerably diminished by a suit in Chancery with the executors. One third part of this bequeathment was, by her Ladyship's will, allocated for Scotland: the object and the place to be appointed by Dr. Gregory Grant of Edinburgh, without direction or restraint. The capital for this hospital amounts at present to L.5000. stock in the 3 per cents. to which Sir James Grant has added the sum of L.150*0s.* sterling, and the accommodation of a house equal to L.12*0s.* of rent. The plan of the Grantown hospital is the same with that of the orphan hospital of Edinburgh; none are admitted under 7, nor continued after 14 years of age; and at present the number is limited to 30. Besides reading, writing, and arithmetic, the girls are taught sewing, weaving, and knitting with wires; and such trades as can be conveniently

ly carried on within doors are taught to those of the boys who choose such employment. The present establishment is a governess, with L.10 sterling, and a female servant: and the youth attend the schools in the village, till the fund can admit of a teacher in the hospital.

The contributions made in the church for the poor amount to L.10 or L.15 sterling; generally distributed to 30 individuals, though more are occasionally admitted to a share of this provision. The whole inhabitants are of the national Church, amounting to 3000 souls.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people are industrious, and of an obliging disposition. On public occasions they are distinguished by the neatness of their attire: the women are also noted among their neighbours for cleanliness in their houses, and for the domestic manufacture of webs of woollen cloth. The castle in the island of Lochnadarb has been already mentioned. The herb peculiar to that island, distinguished by the name of *Lochnadarb kail*, appears to be a mixture of red cabbage plants and common turnip, sown probably by the last possessor and never reaped, and since then degenerated through want of cultivation. They spring up annually in a thick bed, without culture; in some favoured situation, the root of the turnip is found almost of a pound weight: but, in general, the root is similar to that of cabbage plants; both are used as greens at the tables of the country people, and transplanted also into their gardens with the same view: when they run to feed on the island, young cattle are ferried in to feed on them.

The last battle in the revolutionary civil war, in 1690, was fought on the plain of Cromdale. Colonel Livingston, King William's general, defeated the forces of the Viscount Dundee with considerable slaughter, and many prisoners. It was, however, of little importance to the state, and needs not a particular relation here: it is celebrated in a well known Scots ballad, happily descriptive of the humours and sentiments of the age.

The ancient name of Cromdale, SKIR-NA LUAC, *St. Luac's division, or parish*; to whom also a well was dedicated: and Inveralan is derived from the influx of the stream of Toperallan into the Spey, a well emitting a quantity of water at once sufficient to turn the machinery of a corn mill.

The names of many of the places in Strathspey are the same with those

those in Stratheric, it being ascertained, that the ancestors of the family of Grant were once the possessors of that country on the banks of Lochneis.

NUMBER XXXVII.

PARISH OF KIRKMICHAEL.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THE northern limits of Kirkmichael lie on the southern borders of Cromdale, and on the west it meets with Abernethy, in the mountains of Cairngorm, and it occupies the western extremity of the county of Banff. The length between the habitable extremes is 15 miles, and its greatest breadth about 5. The Avon, in the Gaelic denoting simply *the river*, takes its rise from a lake, to which itself has given its name, at the southern bottom of Cairngorm, and holding a course southerly, almost at right angles from the Spey, for nearly 10 miles, through a deep valley, the forest of Glenavon, and dashing down a cataract of 18 feet in height, meeting with the rivulet Builg, stealing from its parent lake through its own green solitary vale, parallel to the Spey, a wing of the forest, they proceed easterly in the same course, till they turn with the stream of Conlass into a northerly direction, right onwards to the Spey; forming a considerable river, on a bed chiefly of limestone, and thereby so extremely pellucid, as to represent a depth of three feet scarcely equal to one, whereby many have been to the loss of their lives deceived.

Along the Avon and its tributary brooks, the soil is a black sandy earth: on the more elevated plains, it is a pretty fertile mould: on the declivities, it is a red earthy gravel, or in some places a deep clay: and as it rises higher on the hills, it is a more sterile moorish gravel. There is little to recommend the climate, always cold in winter, and in summer seldom warm, subjecting the inhabitants to coughs, consumptions, and disorders of the lungs, by which many in an advanced period, and several in early life, are cut off; and nervous fevers, frequently fatal, prevail during the summer and autumn.

*State of Property.*]—The parish is divided into ten little districts called

called *davachs*, from the Gaelic DAIMH, *oxen*, and AUCH, *field*, denoting as much land as can be ploughed in one season by 4 yoke of oxen. One of these, named Delnaboe, is the property of Sir James Grant, Bart. valued in the cens books of Banff at L.233. 6s. 8d. Scots: the other 9 appertain to the Duke of Gordon, amounting to the valuation of L.1925. 6s. 8d. Scots. Excluding the forest of Glenavon and the mountain pasture pertaining to Delnaboe, the whole parish contains 29,500 acres, of which about 1550 are arable; the whole real rent about L.1200 sterling. The whole number of black cattle amounts to 1400, the sheep to 7050, goats to 910, and horses to 303. The mean quantity of meal produced yearly amounts to 2560 bolls, which being only about 2 bolls to each individual, excluding the potatoe and garden stuffs, would be equal to no more than two-thirds of the provisions annually required.

The village of Tomnatoul, near the middle of the parish, contains 37 families. There is no manufacture: only some necessary articles of merchandize retailed: and the men occasionally hire as labourers by the day.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The stipend is L.68. 6s. 8d. sterling, and L.10 sterling allowed by the proprietors for keeping the parsonage buildings in repair. The glebe is nearly 10 acres, and might be let for L.6 sterling. The right of patronage is the property of Sir James Grant. The salary of the parochial school is L.8. 6s. 8d. with the usual fees of education, and the perquisites of the office of session clerk. The Society for propagating Christian Knowledge have established a school in the village of Tomnatoul, with an appointment of L.13. 10s. where nearly 50 scholars attend. The number of poor on the parish roll amounts to 32, and the yearly contributions in the parochial church amount to little more than L.2 sterling. The members of the Established Church are 892, and 384 are of the Church of Rome, who have their own clergyman, and a handsome chapel in the village of Tomnatoul.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—Although the usual proportion of persons conspicuous for honour and integrity, benevolence and uprightness in their transactions, may be found in this parish, yet among the generality, cunning has supplanted sincerity, and dissimulation, candour; profession supplies the place of sincerity, and flattery is used as a lure to betray the unwary: obligations are rewarded

warded by ingratitude; and when a favour is past, the benefit is no longer remembered: opposed to interest, promises cease to be binding; and the most successful in the arts of deception acquire the esteem of uncommon abilities and merit. Suspended between barbarism and civilization, the mind is never so strongly influenced by virtue, as it is attracted by the magnetism of vice.

Mr. George Gordon of Foddaletter is justly entitled to be ranked among the number of eminent men: as a chymist and a botanist, his knowledge was considerable, and it was applied to the extension of useful arts. He discovered, that by a simple preparation of a species of moss produced by the rocks and stone of the mountains, an elegant purple dye might be made. He established a manufacture of this substance at Leith; but its extension was cut off by his premature death in the year 1765.

There is a fountain of mineral water in the parish, of the same kind with the wells of Pannanich: it is frequented by people subject to gravelish disorders, and complaints in the stomach.

At the end of Lochavon is a large natural cave, in a detached mass of stone, nearly 7 feet high and 12 in breadth. The cavity can contain 18 armed men. It is named CLACHDHIAN, *the stone of shelter*. People often lodge in it for a night, some from necessity, others in hunting and fishing.

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NUMBER XXXVIII.

PARISH OF INVERAVON.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THE river Avon, having escaped through a narrow pass from the parish of Kirkmichael, holds on its course in the same northerly direction, through the midst of this parish, for almost 14 miles, dashing into the Spey about a mile higher up on that river than the church: the name of the parish importing in the Gaelic this particular of the termination of the Avon. From the eastern limits of Cromdale to the western borders of Aberlaur, the length of the parish along the Spey is 9 miles. The Avon having taken possession of the southerly quarter of this parish for about the course of two miles, receives the stream of the

Livet from its own valley of Glenlivet, extending easterly into the mountains with its lateral branches, the Tervie, Crombie, and Aultchoilnachan, for the space of 12 miles, forming a detached district of the parish. In the lower part of the country, the soil is light and dry; naturally producing broom; about the influx of the Livet, it is a fertile loam; and higher up in this district there is a marle pit: in some places the soil is moorish; in others it is clay on a bed of limestone: and every-where over the whole parish, there is abundance of peat earth, furnishing in a dry season a sufficient complement of fuel. Except one opening towards the north, where the country is washed by the Spey, it is every-where environed by hills; and the mountain of Benrinness, rising on the eastern border to the height of 2800 feet above the level of the sea, gives more cause, in general, to complain of the excess than of the deficiency of rain. On the banks of the Spey, and on the plains of Ballnadallauch, the climate is early and moderate; it is colder in the higher district of Glenlivet, the snow lying oftentimes pretty deep in the spring, when the sowing is diligently prosecuted below.

*State of Property.]*—The family seat of Ballnadallauch (*the town of the level vale*) is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Avon, not farther from its confluence with the Spey than to maintain the connection with both rivers. The exterior of the building, and the artificial embellishment of the natural beauties, bespeak it the residence of opulence united with the most correct taste: the present great proprietor, General Grant, has expended almost L.7000 sterling on decoration, united with permanent improvement. Similar to many of the seats of ancient families, the house was originally placed in the vicinity of very swampy ground, which has been completely laid dry by a number of costly but perennial drains. He has enlarged the park over a great extent of waste ground, rising on the eastern side of the valley, named BADNAGLA-SHAN, *the tufted boggy pasturage*, originally of no value, but now reduced to a state of such complete cultivation as might be easily let for a corn-farm of more than L.200 sterling of rent. A long reach of an unsightly, precipitous, and craggy bank, which commanded the principal front of the house, hath been clothed with the delicate and rich variety of verdure which a luxuriantly shooting grove of different species of trees can produce. The park extends

tends up the Avon for a considerable space, where it is terminated by a handsome bridge of three arches, connecting it with the other side. The highway bends behind the eastern limits of the park, across the bridge, and down along the margin of the western bank, exhibiting the delightful landscape below like a fair and animated painting, till it regains the less decorated country along the course of the Spey. In the *cess book* of the county of Banff, the valued rent of the domain in this parish, including that of Moreinch, Kilmachly, and Pitchashe, is L.1383. 6s. 8d. Scots: but the house itself, with the park, and two or three of the adjoining farms, are placed, by their political connection, in the county of Moray, valued at L.292. 8d. Scots. The rest of the parish is the property of the Duke of Gordon, and in the county of Banff, valued at L.2290 Scots: extending the total valuation to L.3965. 7s. 4d. Scots. Though there are a number of the possessions but small, there are also many farms of very respectable extent. In the year 1768, the real rent of the whole was proved in the Court of Tithes to be L.1148 sterling: since that time it may have increased nearly to the double of that amount.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—In the order followed in this undertaking, Inveraven falls into the first place of the presbytery of Aberlaur, which, as has been observed, was erected into a separate independent jurisdiction from the presbytery of Abernethy in the year 1709. Under the prelatic dispensation, Inveravon was the seat of the Chancellor of the diocese. The stipend, by decree 1769, is L.71. 9s. and 48 bolls of meal, including the communion allowance. The glebe consists of little more than 4 acres, of which a little less than 3 are arable. Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart. is the patron of the parish. There is a commodious slated school-house in the vicinity of the church: the salary is 12 bolls of oat-meal, with the fees of nearly 40 scholars, and the emoluments of the office of session clerk. The Society for Christian Knowledge have established a school in Glenlivet, migratory about 8 miles from Deskie to Badnavochle: the appointment is L.15 sterling. The number of scholars vibrates from 20 to 90: but from the versatile state of the establishment, it is not possible that any useful knowledge can be attained. The royal bounty supports a missionary clergyman in the district of Glenlivet, with the pittance of L.25: he conducts the ordinances of divine worship for 5 succeeding Sundays at Auchbraek,

braek, about a miles above the influx of the Livet ; and on the sixth, at the distance of 7 miles farther up among the hills, where the country is thinly peopled, where there is no accommodation of a chapel, where one party is not pleased, and where the other is dissatisfied.

In Glenlivet, also, there has been a Roman Catholic establishment for almost 100 years, on the banks of the Crombie, in a very sequestered situation among the mountains which separate this district from the parishes of Cabrach, Glenbucket, and Strathdon. It was chosen on the account of its being so much removed from public view, in those times when the Christians of the Church of Rome were, by the civil law of Britain, and both its reformed churches, exposed to persecution. Its Gaelic appellation, SCALAN, implies *an obscure, or shadowy place*; it may be translated, *the dark, or gloomy land*; and it denotes also the place where, in the days of other years, the hunter stalked in ambuscade for the bounding roe of the hill.

The school is properly the Bishops seminary for educating a few of the Catholic youth in the principles of grammar and morality, and training them to a regularity of discipline, in preparation for the colleges on the Continent; where they are, in general, entered into holy orders: although, on some occasions, the sacrament of ordination has been administered in the Scalán. The school at present contains from 8 to 12 students, under the care of a clergyman, who conducts their education, and superintends the management of the farm and the house. It is now proposed to remove this seminary to the vicinity of Aberdeen; where it is to be established on a more respectable foundation, and conducted on a more enlarged and comprehensive scale.

Upon the farm of Tombea, on the banks of the Livat, at the influx of the Crombie, the pastor of the people of the Catholic communion resides; near his residence, the chapel, a neat clean slated fabric, is placed.

The contributions for the poor from the parochial and missionary churches amount to nearly. L.7 sterling in the year, distributed among 38 indigent individuals of the national Church. The Roman Catholics support their own poor, by funds of their own formation. Their number is nearly equal to that of the poor of the Establishment, the whole members of which amount to 1394, and those

those of the Church of Rome, the only dissenters in the parish, are 850.

*Miscellaneous Information:—*—The proprietors, inattentive to their concern in the provision established by the Statutory law for the poor, disregarded an application in the year 1780 by the session, to take a loan at legal interest of £100 sterling, accumulated by the most parsimonious and frugal management, unremitted for the space of many years. The session therefore disposed of this capital, with the utmost caution, between two gentlemen of landed property, in other parishes: but though justly elated, no doubt, by their own provident address, they were taught the mortifying lesson, that “riches are not always to men even of understanding.” In a few years the affairs of both debtors fell into disorder, and their capital was in a great measure lost.

All the political evils which so greatly disturb the passing generation, have been reduced under two classes—the uncertainty and cost of civil justice, and the expence required for the support of government. In what manner these causes of complaint may be removed, lies far beyond the scope of this undertaking: but by the history of Scotland in all ages, it is certain, that there has been no period in which the people, high and low, of every rank, led their lives in more secure or more comfortable circumstances. The events of the disgusting history of the savages of Abyssinia, related so circumstantially by Mr. Bruce, might, with a little accommodation, be paralleled by the transactions among our own ancestors, from the carnage of Berwick by Edward I. in the year 1293, to the massacre of Glencoe by King William in 1690. The Kings and great men led their whole lives in an uncomfortable insecurity, and were for the most part cut off by a violent death; and the condition of the inferior ranks must have been extremely miserable. While the minds of all were debased, under the domination of oppressive priesthood and gloomiest superstition, the fortunes, persons, and lives, of the people were subject to the uncontrolled disposal of their petty, though arbitrary chiefs: their habitations, in cleanliness and accommodation, were not superior to the huts of the most savage tribes: their furniture, clothing, and viands, were mean and wretched in the extreme; and they were continually harassed by the predatory and cruel wars of their rapacious and capricious lords. This parish in the year 1594 was distinguished by one of those

those events, the battle of Glenlivet, which in the present times would be accounted peculiarly outrageous. The extremely imbecile administration of James VI. had at that time involved the nation in the complicated misfortunes of the most inveterate anarchy. The Church, with the presumption not uncommon among upstarts, weakly interposed in the affairs of state, which were at the same embroiled by the contending interests of discordant nobles, and the imperious but selfish politics of the English Queen. Three noblemen, the Earls of Huntly, Errol, and Angus, from causes unnecessary to be stated here, had still persisted in the religion of their ancestors. By the incredible calumny of a conspiracy with the Spanish Monarch, the King, obliged to submit to the necessity of the times, reluctantly decreed their banishment and forfeiture; and excommunication, for the good of their souls, was added by the sentence of the Church. From a previous enmity to Huntly, the Earl of Argyle is appointed his Majesty's lieutenant to execute this mild correction, and his preparations for this holy war are aided and spurred on by the pious endeavours of Bruce of Kinaird, a clergyman of Edinburgh. By their united influence, and the hope of the plunder of the north, almost 10,000 rapacious warriors from the Western Isles, and all the coast from Cantyre to Lochaber, take the field. Elated with their own numbers, and gaping for the spoil, they hasten on through Badenoch towards the richer region of Strathbogie. In the vale of Glenlivet, their march is intercepted by a little band of scarce 1200 cavalry, which Huntly and Errol were only able, on the spur of the occasion, to muster. It is rather common than surprising, that an army presumptuous from their number should, by the resolution and caution of their contemned foe, be foiled. The field of battle was the southern declivity of the valley, through which the brook of Aultchoilnachan winds its course, at the bottom of a heathy precipice almost perpendicular, upon the margin of which the forces of Argyle were marshaled, having the advantage of their enemy on the sloping ground below, which was however compensated by the effect of two small field pieces, almost equally unknown among the forces of Argyle as among the powers of Montezuma, or the armies of Peru. The disorder which these occasioned was completed by the van, of 400 of the most gallant horsemen, led round the end of the precipice by Errol, charging the footmen furiously with the spear.

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The left wing had been without consideration entrusted to the command of a chief among the Grants, yet the vassal and friend of Huntly, who, by a previous concert, turned, at this crisis of the engagement, against the centre, which was led on by Argyle himself; notwithstanding of which the battle for more than two hours was maintained: but the centre at last gave way, under the vigour of Huntly's attack: their rout left the van or right wing, which had commenced the fight, unsupported, which retreated unbroken and in order, though their leader, the chieftain of the Macleans of Mull, was slain. The attempt of Argyle to rally was in vain; and the whole of their baggage, the greater part of their arms, and more than 700 slain, were left upon the field, while 12 only of the opposing party fell. The carnage of the pursuit was prevented by the roughness of the ground. The whole country around was by this victory delivered from rapine and destruction. The ancestor of the Abyssinian traveller was grieved, and the King secretly rejoiced.



## NUMBER XXXIX.

## PARISH OF KNOCKANDO.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE parish extends 15 miles along the north side of the Spey, from Cromdale at the west to the lower Craig-Elachy, which terminates the district of Strathspey at the east, on the borders of the parish of Rothes. It is separated from Inveravon by the river, and extends northwards into the hills about 6 miles, to the limits of Dollas and Birnie.

The soil, along the banks of the river, and by the sides of the brooks winding through the hills from the west and north, is a sandy gravel; in other situations, it is a deep wet clay; a very great proportion is of moorish quality, and wet: there is naturally so little mixture of calcareous earth, that no part, without the application of lime, will produce bear, clover, or pease. In the higher part of the district, a boll of bear, in common, is but half the weight of that quantity raised upon the coast; and it requires two bolls of the oats to yield one of meal.

The climate is healthful: but, from its general elevation, and the

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swampy quality of so great a proportion of the surface, it is severe and cold; heavy rains falling in the spring and autumn, and much frost and snow prevailing in the winter months.

*State of Property.]*—The valued rent of the parish amounts to L.1987. 18s. 10d. of which Robert Grant Esq. holds L.1247. 7s. 4d. for Wester Elchies, Ballnatom, and Knockando. The family seat is at Wester Elchies; where improvements have been for some time begun, and are making a gradual advance. A village was built on the moor of Ballnatom, about the year 1760, by Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk, and some improvement, to the extent of about 24 acres, at the first was made: but instead of continuing progressive, it has for several years been rather retrograde; the roads, only formed, not completed, have fallen into so much disrepair, that to a wheel carriage the village is only accessible from the east; by the south and west roads, the approach on horseback requires the most careful circumspection. By an accidental fire, some years ago, many of the houses were consumed, and their naked roofless walls suggest the idea of Tadmor in the desert, or of some other eastern city, on which judgment denounced by some ancient prophet hath been in part accomplished, for it still retains the number of about fourscore worthy inhabitants.

General Grant of Ballnadallach has Kirkdales, Glenarder, Pitcroy, and Delnapot, at L.426. 10s. and the Earl of Findlater has Easter Elchies, at L.314. 1s. 6d. Knockando and Easter Elchies were once the mansions of their respective owners, and are still embellished by manor houses, gardens, and plantations. Some of the farms are of considerable extent; but, in general, they do not much exceed 30 arable acres. The real rent, including L.10 arising from the salmon fishery, may be estimated about L.2000 sterling: cultivated by 150 ploughs: and the best arable acre is valued at 14s. The parish supports about 300 horses, 3000 cattle, and 5000 sheep.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The parish of Macallan, that is, St. Colin, comprised in Easter and Wester Elchies, was united to Knockando during the regency of the Earl of Morton; they were again disjoined during the establishment of prelacy, for 16 years prior to the revolution: since which, they have made one parish under the name of Knockando, signifying in the Gaelic *the market hill*. The stipend is L.93. 5s. 6d. and 27 bolls of meal. The glebe is 16 acres.

of which 11 are arable. The right of patronage appertains to Sir James Grant of Grant. The salary of the parochial school is 10 bolls of meal, and L.2 sterling, the value of the office of session clerk, and the customary fees of about 40 scholars. The Society for Christian Knowledge have established a school in Ballnatom, for the accommodation of the eastern quarter of the parish. The number of the poor on the session roll is 20: the fund for their support arises from the contributions made by the families in their assemblies for public worship, about L.6 sterling in the year, and as much, the interest of a bequeathment under the care of the session. The whole inhabitants are of the national Church, amounting to 1500.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people are, in general, sober, discreet, and very economical, but deficient in the article of industry. The navigation of timber in rafts from Strathspey to Garmach is frequently undertaken by some of them. They make a journey to the forest, and conduct the raft by 2 men to Garmach, returning home generally within the week, at the medium hire of 2 guineas for each trip; of which 7s. and maintenance is allowed by the master-floater to his coadjutor, generally a young man learning the business. At the rock of Tomdow, in this parish, the river dashes with such rapidity at right angles against the cliff, that by the violence of the collision the rafts were shattered. To avoid this charybdis, the York Building Company, when established at Coulnacoill, cut a new channel along the hypotenuse, and by this course the floating business is still carried on. Capt. Shank of the navy resided at Knockando-house in the year 1786; after having maturely considered the course of the Spey, he would have undertaken to render the river navigable, for flat-bottomed vessels of 40 tons, from its influx up to Grantown: but there being no trade or manufacture adequate to the expence, the execution, if practicable, must be deferred till some future age, when the superior improvement of the country may require such accommodation.

NUMBER XL.

PARISH OF ABERLAUR.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—ABERLAUR extends 9 miles from the borders of Inveravon on the west, along the southern bank of the

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Spey

Spey, to the influx of the Fiddich at the east, on the borders of Boharm; there spreading backward about a mile of arable ground, it rises to the summit of the Conval hills, by which it is separated from Mortlach; it gradually increases its breadth to the western frontier, where it is nearly equal to its length. The narrow vale of Glenrines, may be regarded as a continuation of the parish of Mortlach; it is detached from the body of this parish by the mountain of Benrines, between which and the Convals a narrow pass opens a level communication; the brook Dulnan winds in its bottom, and its northern side only appertains to the parish of Aberlaur.

The soil upon the river is a light mould upon a bed of sand; and as the country extends back toward the hills, it becomes a deep clay. The climate, on the whole, is temperate; along the river it is warm; and the harvests are more early than in Glenrines, where there is never occasion to complain for want of rain.

*State of Property.*.—The parish appertains to five proprietors. The only family seat is Aberlaur, the estate of Patrick Gordon Esq. and the mansion of his ancestors; it is embellished by a garden, enclosed fields, with some natural and some planted wood. The valued rent is L.250 Scots. Edinvillie is the property of David Macdowal Grant of Arndilly; it is also improved by a commodious house, well cultivated fields, and some natural wood. The valued rent is L.350. The estate of Carron is the property of Robert Grant of Elchies Esq. from which it is separated only by the river: having been once a family seat, it still displays a handsome mansion house, gardens, enclosed fields, and plantation. The valued rent is L.400. Except the Earl of Findlater's property of Mudhouse, valued at L.50, the rest of the parish appertains to the Earl of Fife, at the valuation of L.1167: extending the total valuation of the parish to L.2217 Scots. There are several farms of considerable extent, from L.40 to about L.70 sterling of rent: but the parish is generally occupied in small possessions, from about L.5 to about L.16 sterling of rent; and the mean rent of the acre may be estimated at 14s.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The ancient name of the parish was SKIR-DURSTAN, literally *St. Durstan's shire, or division*, from the original Gaelic, signifying to cut, there being no word in that language answering more nearly to that of *parish*. The church, a

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mean ancient fabric, is situated near the influx of a considerable and rumbling stream, as its present appellation imports.

The stipend is L.58. 6s. 8d. and 18 bolls of meal. The glebe is about 6 acres, of which nearly 5 are under the plough. The Earl of Fife is the patron.

In the valley of Glenrines, there is a missionary establishment, for the accommodation of the remote extremities of Aberlaur and Mortlach, with an appointment by the royal bounty of L.30 yearly. The school is in the vicinity of the church, a commodious building, floored and finished within. The landholders of the parish have been in the use of paying to Mr. Hall, the present incumbent, about L.11 sterling of salary, which, with L.1 as the fee of the session clerk, and the perquisites of that office, and the customary rates of payment, makes the appointment equal to about L.20 yearly; as the school retains about 30 scholars.

The Society for Christian Knowledge once established a school in Glenrines, adding thereby a great accommodation to that sequestered district; but the landholders refusing to countenance the establishment, by the petty conveniences which the rules of the society require, it has been for some time wholly withdrawn.

The number of the poor enrolled is 21: the provision for their support arises from the money contributed by the people who attend the church, about L.5 yearly; and sundry bequeathments, with savings by the session in times of plenty, have created a fund of interest producing yearly L.4. 8s. and 3½ bolls of meal, and a small sum retained for answering urgent exigencies. The members of the national Church are 910; and the Dissenters 11, of the Church of Rome.

[*Miscellaneous Information.*]—On the stream which passes by the church, a little farther up, there is a pretty water-fall, of consideration in this quarter of the country. The stream precipitates itself from an height of 30 feet, and, broken in its fall, dashes into a gloomy circular pool of unknown depth, environed by a rocky bound more than twice the height of the fall. The basin below is easily accessible; and the surrounding rock, by reverberating, increases greatly the din.

The people, with anticipated satisfaction, contemplate two great promised accommodations—a post office at Aberlaur, and a bridge over the Spey, a little farther up than the church. By these, it is

is certain, the state of the country all around will, in a short time, be improved in a variety of circumstances, beyond what could be at present believed.

The sentiments and manners of the people are in no respect different from those of their neighbours in the adjoining parishes.

NUMBER XLI.

*PARISH OF MORTLACH.*

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THE principal part of this parish is a valley nearly parallel to the course of the Spey, extending eastward from the eastern quarter of Inveravon, along the southern side of Aberlaur, from which it is separated by a ridge of mountain, raised into three high rounded summits, named the Conval Hills. Through this valley, the stream of Dullan holds a straight and, as its name imports, a rapid course, until near its termination in the Spey; where, bent almost into a right angle, it turns across the end of the Conval Hills from south to north: but having run about two-thirds of its course, it resigns its name to another stream, the Fiddich; which, rising near the eastern borders of the parish of Inveravon, occupies the bottom of a woody vale, as its name imports, nearly parallel to that of Dullan: at the distance of 3 miles on the south, across this space, turning direct, it hastens to join its neighbour with both its water and its wood, forming the country together into the figure of the letter [h] inverted, as thus [q]. But to the parish another vale appertains, stretched towards the south-east, from the other side of the hill which bends the course of the Fiddich: through this vale, the brook of Marky winds down to the river Dovern; which there, for almost a quarter of a mile, forms the limit of the parish, and bounds the county of Banff with that of Aberdeen, enlarging the form of the parish to something resembling the capital letter [K]. Its greatest length, along the course of the Dullan, is about 12 miles; and the breadth, over Glenfiddich and Glenriness, is not less than 6. No alteration either in the natural appearance of the country, or in its name, has taken place for more than 800 years. In the charter granted by Malcolm II. about the

year 1010, to the first bishop of this ancient see, its name is written MURTHLAC, nearly the same as at present; but its etymology is not ascertained. MORTIS LACUS, *the death lake*, is intitled to equal respect only with the burlesque derivations of the Dean of St. Patrick: the more probable Gaelic source, which makes the name imply *the great hollow*, is neither satisfactory in sound construction nor in comparative signification, as the hollow in all of the six surrounding parishes is of as great or greater extent than here. The arable fields may be from 4 to 5000 acres: they lie, in general, pretty high along the Dullan and the Fiddich, and the banks of the brook of Marky, disjoined from the rest of the parish. The sloping sides of the rills which fall into these streams, and the more gentle declivities of the mountains, are also partly under cultivation. There are some little plains along the windings of the streams, but they are not considerable. The extent of meadow grass and coarser pasture, with the moor and heath-covered hills, may amount to twenty times as much as the cultivated field. The soil, for the most part, is a deep fertile loamy clay; the exceptions of its inclining in some places to a sandy or a moorish soil, scarcely merit notice. The air is pure and wholesome, though rather moist than dry: fair weather is sometimes enjoyed on the farms below, when tempests, or showers of rain, or of snow, are gloomily chilling on the surrounding heights above. Its political situation places it in the county of Banff: in the ecclesiastical view, it is under the jurisdiction of the presbytery of Strathbogie, the commissariot of Aberdeenshire, and the synod of Moray.

*State of Property.]*—The parish is the property of five proprietors. The Earl of Fife has the lordship of Balvenie, on which there is an ample handsome regular modern seat, situated in a wide opening of the vale, upon the banks of the Fiddich, after its union with the Dullan, in a plain at the bottom of the eminence which is occupied by the old castle. To his Lordship also pertains Glenmarie, Edinglassy, and Dullanside, valued altogether in the cens roll of the county of Banff at L.1920 Scots. The Duke of Gordon has the lordship of Auchradun, Glenfiddich, with a commodious seat, and Glenrines, amounting altogether to the value of L.1620 Scots. James Leslie Esq. holds the barony of Kininvie and the lands of Tullich, a valuation of L.450 Scots, and resides in the manor house of Kininvie, the commodious habitation

tion of his very remote ancestors. The small property of Buchrome is a part of the estate of Andrew Steuart of Auchlunkart Esq. valued at L.90 Scots; and the farm of Lochend, on the confines of the parish of Bogtriphnie, a part of the estate of Duff of Drumuir, is valued at L.20 Scots; making the whole valued rent of the parish amount to the sum of L.4100 Scots. The farms are unequal in extent, from a rent of L.5 to L.80 sterling. The mean rent of the acre is about 15s.

*State Ecclesiastical.*]—The church is situated on the bank of the Dullan, a little above its confluence with Fiddich. It is venerable merely on account of its age. It is the cathedral of the second bishopric of Scotland: its walls are supposed to have stood since the beginning of the eleventh century, and they are still deemed to be more durable than any building of the present day. They have none of that magnificence or elegant decoration of the cathedral of succeeding ages: the simplicity of the doors and windows, and of the whole edifice, bears witness to its age: the windows are narrow flits, 6 feet in height, and only 10 inches wide on the outside, but sloped so much as to measure 12 feet wide within. It is 90 feet in length, and 28 in breadth, having 27 feet in the east end where no doubt the choir and altar were, a few feet higher than the rest of the building. The bodies of Bean, the first bishop, Donotius, the second, and Cormac, the third, are supposed to be here interred. Neftan, the fourth, in the 14th year of his incumbency was translated by David I. to Aberdeen, which, then becoming the seat of the diocese, assumed also the name, having remained at Mortlach for the space of 129 years after its erection in the year 1010. Its revenue here was but small, comprehending only the churches of Mortlach, Cloyeth, and Dalmeth, with all their land. The glebe on which the manse is placed is close by the church, extending to 6 acres, and comprehending a small orchard and kitchen garden. The patronage belongs to the Crown, and the stipend L.63. 2s. sterling, and 16 bolls bear and 32 of meal, in which allowance for the communion is included. The whole emoluments of the schoolmaster (the salary, an annual donation bequeathed by Duff of Dipple, the fees, and the perquisites of the office of session clerk,) do not exceed 20 guineas a-year, for which 40 scholars have a respectable mediocrity of education. Dr. Alex. Macfie of St. Croix, a native, and for some time the schoolmaster of the parish

parish, bequeathed L.600 sterling, to the care of the Professors of King's College, Aberdeen, for completing the education in that University of 4 boys taught in this school, which must be certified by the minister, the donation being so adjusted as to have one of the 4 boys beginning with it each year; and if 2 or more apply together, the best scholar is preferred. This endowment has continued almost 40 years, and though inadequate now to defray the whole expence at Aberdeen, has been of important service to many of the youth of this parish.

The fund for the support of the poor consists partly of the sum of L.4. 3s. 4d. being the yearly interest of a capital bequeathed also by Dipple, who, by his endowments for the support of the schools, and provisions of this kind in the parishes in which his property lay, shewed the kindest and most liberal attention both to the minds and to the bodies of the poor. To this sum, which was of great consideration in the age in which it was bequeathed, the tenants and their families who attend the church make, by their weekly contributions, the addition of about L.16 more; from which, not what can be supposed a subsistence, but a scanty aid, is derived for the support of 60 of their indigent neighbours, the number of poor on the roll of the books of the church session. The members of the Established Church are 1837; and there are 43 Seceders, 37 Roman Catholics, and 1 Episcopalian.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people, with a few exceptions, are and long have been honest, industrious, sober, and humane, attached to the British constitution, and decent in their attendance on the ordinances of religion: in general, they are disposed to cheerfulness and contentment, but keenly alive to the sense of injustice or oppression: they are not fond of a military life, and the business of a soldier is in low estimation among them, being regarded as dissipated, slavish, and poor. It is frequently observed, that there was greater plenty of all kinds of game before the legal prohibitions had effect, as every one had then an interest in destroying those animals that prey upon them so much more successfully than man, and in taking care also of the eggs, and of the young, about which they are now careless, at least, and indifferent. In the vicinity of the Duke of Gordon's seat in Glenfiddich, there is a great extent of fine natural birch wood, the residence of more than 1000 deer and roe, the natural and ancient in-

habitants of the forest. Balvenie Castle, in the lower end of the country, is embellished also by much natural wood on the banks of the Fiddich, chiefly alder, among which the elm, plane, and oak, prosper; the ash also shoots luxuriantly, and seems natural to the soil; and a great variety of flowering shrubs appear among the trees, the natives of the place. There are, besides, several extensive plantations of Scots fir upon the property of Buchrome, and on that of the Earl of Fife, on the whole nearly 400 acres. An arable and very fertile field, a sloping bank in the park around the castle, planted with fir, when it was built about 70 years ago, is now become fine timber full grown. In that age, it was the opinion that rich soil was requisite for such plantations; but the other groves, which at present decorate so much of the inarable waste around, seem now to require that this field, denominated from its fertility the granary of the farm to which it appertains, should be again restored to the more indispensable productions of the plough. There are several chalybeate springs: one, near the old castle of Auchnabun, has been found by a chymical examination to resemble the Peterhead water, and to be as light as it: they are of use in gravelish complaints, and in disorders of the stomach. In the wood also about Kininvie-house, there is a spring of a petrifying quality. On this estate also, in the banks of a brook at Tullich, there is the appearance of alum, vitriol, and lead. There is every-where plenty of stone for building, and some quarries also of pretty good slate, of a grey colour, and over all the country exhaustless treasures of limestone, locked up almost from the farmer, merely by the expence of fuel. There is marble also in the banks of both the streams, and in one place a laminated rock is fit for whetstone and hones. It was in this parish that Malcolm II, in the year 1010, gained that victory over the Danes which terminated their depredations in the kingdom. This event, so important then, makes the place to be respected as classic ground. In the preceding year Malcolm had been wounded, defeated, and obliged to leave the Danes in possession of the coast of Moray. Returning with a more powerful army, the intruders, informed of his approach, solicitous to prevent his arrival in the open country, move forward to oppose him in the hills. The battle is begun near the church of Mortlach: in the beginning of the attack, when pushing on with over-ardent impetuosity, three thanes, Kenneth of the Isles, Dunbar of Lothian, and

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Graeme of Strathern, are slain; and the Scots, thereby struck with panic, are hurried into flight. The King, reluctantly borne along by the frightened crowd, passes by the church dedicated to St. Modlocus, and gains the height of a steep and narrow pass, near its western end. Here, by the situation of the ground, he is enabled to stop, and to collect his broken host, which reanimated by confidence in the aid of the saint, procured on the occasion by the King's vow of enlarging the chapel by three lengths of his spear, and having now also the advantage of the ground, they turn with enthusiasm on the foe disarrayed by their pursuit. Eneucus, their leader, is slain by the prowess alone of the King, and the Danes in their turn fly; but their rout is final and complete, although they also attempted to rally on the eminence opposite on the east, near to the old castle of Balvenie, a fort being mentioned as near the field of battle. Many monuments of this victory remain: an intrenchment, yet distinct on the lowest summit of the Conval hills, is still known as the Danish camp: a bulky cylindrical stone, placed over the grave of Eneucus, was only of late rolled a few yards off its station at the corpse, for building the fence of a corn-field. At a very little distance from the chieftain's grave, on the south, near to the north-west corner of the plantation of Tomnatumuid, a small squared spot of ground has been ever recognized as the common grave of the slaughtered Danes. The addition to the west end of the church, 24 feet in length, the triple measure of Malcolm's spear, in the performance of his vow, is still obviously distinct; and three holes in this votive addition still record the barbarous triumph with which the heads of three Danes of distinction had been there originally placed. It is hardly 30 years ago since the last mouldered away. An obelisk, raised on the glebe on the bank of the Dullan, about 6 feet in height, the sculpture on its two opposite sides now nearly by time effaced, hath almost ceased to tell the purpose of its own erection; and to these it may be added, that human bones, broken sabres, and pieces of other ancient armour, have from time to time been accidentally discovered; and about 40 years ago, a chain of gold, supposed to have been the ornament of some chieftain's neck, was by the plough turned up on the glebe. The stratagem of damming up the Dullan, where its channel through a rock is contracted to the span of the stream, for discharging an artificial torrent on the unsuspecting Danes below, and thereby

thereby dividing their strength, had been at any time practised, it must have been on some other occasion than that of this engagement: if an enemy could be by these means surprised, the facility with which it might be accomplished might naturally suggest such a simple expedient.

In the history of this parish, another occurrence may be mentioned. Although the interest of King James in Scotland became evidently desperate, on the death of Viscount Dundee in the battle of Killiecrankie in 1689, yet, in a council of the Jacobite chiefs in the beginning of the year thereafter, it was determined to attempt another campaign; and until the seed season should be completed, when greater numbers might be raised, a party of 1500 men was sent down to employ and fatigue the revolutionary troops. They plundered the country through which they marched, and burnt the house of Edinglassie, at that time the property of Mr. Gordon, who lying in wait for their return, a few weeks afterwards, seized at random 18 of the stragglers, whom he immediately hanged on the trees of his garden. They were buried together in a corner of the nearest waste, still distinguished by the name of *the Highlandmen's mossie*. The mild and equitable sentiments of the passing generation may be shocked by such instances of unjust and savage barbarity; but the many examples of the deepest calamity which have now been so long exhibited in France, prove, that in the convulsions of civil war and internal distraction, rage and the most atrocious cruelty will for ever prevail, and the most unfeeling and relentless barbarity will be the certain portion of numbers, not only of the unprotected or of the base, but of the most respectable also and most worthy of the people, without distinction, in every nation whom Providence may see meet to chastise with the horrible visitation of a revolutionary civil war.

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NUMBER XLII.

PARISH OF BOHARM.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—BOHARN, the ancient name, in the Gaelic denotes, in one respect, the situation of the parish, *the bending about the hill*, lying around the eastern side of the hill of *Be-neages*.

neagen, from the river Spey at the south, till it meets the river again on the northern end of the mountain; its breadth stretches back to Botriphnie and Keith, and its length extends to Bellie, from the confines of Mortlach and Aberlaur. The country behind the mountain may be conceived as an extensive valley, having all the arable land hanging on the acclivities of both sides of the rivulets which wind their courses from the middle of the dale to the river at either end of the mountain. The soil on the banks of the river may be accounted sandy, light, and warm; on the eastern side of the hill, it is a stiff, deep, wet clay, generally on a bed of lime-stone. The climate also, like the soil, is cold and wet: the clouds, borne aloft from the ocean, appear sometimes as if attracted by the mountain, and at other times as if dashed upon its summit by the winds from the north, or from the north-west. The seed-time can seldom be commenced till the spring be well advanced: and, in general, the season of harvest encroaches far upon the winter.

*State of Property.*]—The parish is possessed by 4 proprietors. In its southern quarter, sheltered from the east and north, by a curvature of the mountain, is the family seat of Arndilly, the property of David Macdowal Grant Esq. a magnificent modern house, making the front of a small court of lower buildings; it is pleasantly situated on an elevated ground, rising from a pretty extensive plain, which has the river winding around it; the plantations stretch behind upon the sides of the mountain, farther than the house on either quarter commands, presenting a pleasant riding of several miles, diversified by the different sweeps of the river, and the fertile plains of Rothes on the farther side; while the ornamented banks of a brook, gushing from the angle of the mountain, with the gardens and enclosed fields, add to the natural beauties of this elegant situation. The valued rent of the whole domain in the parish, Pa-  
peen, Newtown, Galdwal, and Auchmadies, amount to L.840 Scots. The barony of Auchluncart, with the family seat, recently improved into the elegance of modern fashion, with the convenience of a kitchen garden, and the shelter of a little grove, is the property of Andrew Steuart Esq. writer to the signet, amounting to the valuation of L.1000. The farm of Knockan, a part of the estate of John Duff of Drummuir, which has run over the hill from the parish of Botriphnie, is valued at L.100. The rest of the parish ap-  
pertsains

pertains to the Earl of Findlater, of which the valuation only of the lands of Boat of Brigg, amounting to L.100, is within the county of Banff; the lands of Cairnty, Auchroisk, Mulderies, and Mulben, amounting to L.1437. 9s. 2d. belongs to the county of Moray: extending the total valuation of the parish to the sum of L.3577. 9s. 2d. Scots. The farms are, in general, of considerable, though of various extent. The average rent of the acre of the arable land may be estimated at 18s.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—In Roman Catholic times there were three chapels in the parish of Boharm: St. Nicholas at the Boat of Brigg, the chapel at the Castle of Galival, and the third at Arndilly, then named Artendol. St. Nicholas, it may be presumed, was suppressed and added to Dundurcos about the Reformation; and there is reason to believe, that Arndilly and the district of Galival were formed into the parish of Boharm prior to the year 1618. In the year 1682, Dundurcos being suppressed, the territory of St. Nicholas was then conjoined: and of late a new church has been built, about 3 miles eastward from the old fabrick, in a situation pretty central to the present parish; where the glebe, about 90 acres, has been also allocated, and the residence henceforth fixed. The value of the living, as presently constituted, is L.44, and 72 bolls in bear and meal. The right of patronage appertains to the Earl of Fife; but the Crown has obtained a share by the annexation from Dundurcos. The school has not been in a flourishing state for many years: a sorry cottage, is incommodiously situated behind the old church. The salary is only a wretched pittance of L.5. 11s. about half the wages of an ordinary farm servant, as the fees of teaching, and the whole emoluments of the office of session clerk, about L.3. 10s. do not defray the expence of daily bread alone.

The number of the poor is about 26: and the provision for their support, contributed in the church in the usual manner, with 10s. an ancient yearly endowment in the parish of Dundurcos, amounts to nearly L.7 in whole. The number of the people is about 1300; and, except those who occasionally support the vagabonds that ply about the old church of Dundurcos, they are all of the national Establishment.

## NUMBER XLIII.

## PARISH OF KEITH.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—THIS parish sweeps in the section of an oval along the eastern side of Boharm, and the southern border of Bellie; making the church the centre, a radius of 3 miles will nearly describe its boundary. GHAITH, the name in the original Gaelic, signifies *wind*: in some old charters it is written GITH; which word, corrupted differently in the pronunciation, enters into the composition of the names of many places; such as the Bog of Gight, the original name of Gordon Castle, Gight, Airdgay, Edingeith, and Ballnageith: there is however nothing in the natural situation of any of these places which makes such a denomination peculiarly appropriate. Similar to its neighbours, Boharm and Bellie, Keith is also parted between the counties of Moray and Banff: and it may be noticed, that where the highway to Edinburgh and Aberdeen is conducted by the church, and through the village, near the centre, as has been said of the parish, the county of Banff compressed on the north by Moray, and on the south by Aberdeen, is limited to the breadth of only 3 miles, and in its general outline would resemble an hour glass, save that the eastern division from Keith to the sea is every-way of greater extent than the other, which is terminated among the mountains on the west, where the county of Inverness borders with that of Aberdeen.

The soil of this parish, in general, may be accounted a deep fertile loam, and, similar to the greater part of the county of Banff, incumbent on lime-stone; inclining in some places to clay, and in some of the higher grounds to moorish gravel. The parish may be described as a section of a long valley called Strathisla. In such a situation, as the hill on the southern side rises pretty high, the climate, in general, is moist: rain frequently falls. The soil is extremely retentive of water; and, in the winter months, the snow often lies for several weeks together. The roads, though not wholly neglected, are always much broke; and during open weather in winter, and in the spring, they are for wheel-carriages almost impassable.

*State of Property.]*—The extent of the parish is shared among 5 proprietors.

proprietors. The only family seat is that of Birkenburn, the property of John Steuart Esq. where a neat house, the habitation of his ancestors, is embellished by a garden, enclosures, and a natural wood along the steep banks of a winding brook, improved by interspersed plantation. The valued rent is L.80. John Gordon of Grieveiship Esq. of the parish of Forres, holds Edintore, the inheritance of his remote ancestors for many generations, valued at L.100. To the barony of Milltown, anciently the property of Lord Oliphant, comprehending also the villages of Old and New Keith, the Earl of Findlater has conjoined Kempcairn, Ardneedly, Auchoinany, and Craigduff, in the county of Banff, valued at L.1215. 7s. 8d. and the lands of Mulderies and Allanbuie, in the county of Moray, valued at L.605. 7s. 2d. Andrew Steuart Esq. writer to the signet, possesses the estate of Pitlurg, of which the one half, valued at L.250; is in the parish of Cairny; and the other half, with the property of Nether Auchanacy, makes his valuation in this parish equal to the sum of L.450. The rest of the parish is the property of the Earl of Fife, valued at L.2894. 12s. 4d. extending the valuation of the whole lands to L.5345. 7s. 2d. But from sundry of these estates, which either had been the property, or were burdened with certain payments to the abbey of Kinlofs, Miss Brodie of Lethin still continues to draw particular sums, chiefly from the estates of the two Peers, to which it is probable that she could not now instruct her right from the abbot, nor those their original obligation to pay, though long sanctioned by indubitable prescription. These sums seem to have been always subjected to a proportion of the public burdens of the state, and accordingly Miss Brodie stands charged in the cefs books of the county of Banff with the valuation of L.100. The bishop of Moray had also some lands in a similar situation to those which appertained to the abbot; and though the bishop rents are now accounted for to the Exchequer, as part of the revenue of the state, they are also stated in the cefs roll at the valuation of L.50: by which means the total valuation of the parish, liable in all the public burdens but the stipend, amounts to the sum of L.5495. 7s. 2d. Scots. Other peculiarities in the state of the property ought not perhaps to be omitted. When vassals and tenants were in the practice of performing military and personal service, attending their respective lords in war, and in all engagements from home, the people on

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the family of Gordon's lands in Strathbogie, Cabrach, Kirkmichael, Inveravon, and Mortlach, rendezvoused in general muster with their chief and his friends, from Enzie and Grange, in a grassy bank, open to the south, upon the river Isla at Keith: on this account, though now cultivated, it is still distinguished by the name of *the suit-roll-croft*. The original proprietor objected not to such occasional occupancy; but his own right, through prescription, seems to have been thereby lost: for this small tenement, not exceeding 3 acres, has been the sole property of the family of Gordon in this parish, from the eldest antiquity. It cannot, therefore, be included in the valuation of any other estate; it is not charged by itself with any valued rent in the cess books of the county; and it is peculiarly distinguished by the honourable exemption from the burdens of land tax, stipend, school salary, and mill thirlage, and, though no doubt holding of the Crown, from all share in the representation of the county in parliament: with other lands of greater consideration, it was transferred, about the year 1780, by excambion to the family of Fife.

With this may be contrasted the property of Craigduff, an estate of not more than 3 acres also, yet paying a proportion of the land tax corresponding to a valuation of L.90. About the year 1667, when this valuation was made, its real rent exceeded not 10s. or L.6 Scots. The traditionary explanation is, its proprietor at that time was a fortune-hunter: that to pass himself as a man of opulence in the county of Buchan, where his rent roll was not accurately known, he exhibited an extract of the valuation of his estate, certified by the clerk of the commissioners of supply. Tradition has not recorded that his stratagem was successful: from the colour of the narration it may be inferred, that his plot was discovered.

There are 4 villages in the parish: those of Old and New Keith, upon the barony of Milltown, are the most distinguished. The old town is of unknown antiquity, not less than 500 years: by its trade and jurisdiction of regality, it was of superior consequence to Banff, Cullen, or Fordyce, then the only towns in the county. The court of regality sat in the church: it judged of every civil cause, and took cognizance of every crime, including even the four pleas of the crown. The baillie was, in general, assisted by some of the barons of the regality as his assessors. The pannels were placed in a window, still recognised by people acquainted with the

church under the name of *the boss window*. The steeple on the middle of the front wall, and communicating with the church, was the jail: and the stocks remained to the passing generation. The place of execution was the uncultivated hill where the new town of Keith now stands. The bones of the criminals who were executed there, were dug up in clearing out the foundations of some of the tenements; and they were buried again in the peat morass upon its eastern side. The last criminal was Gilbert Dallachy, a parishioner, hanged for theft about a century ago. But old women, who were found guilty of familiarities with the devil, were drowned in Gaun's Pool, where the new bridge on Isla is built.

But this little town, scarcely covering the extent of 3 acres, was still more distinguished by the great fair, which was continued for a week about the middle of September. To it the whole merchants of Aberdeen, leaving their shops almost empty, with all their goods repaired, and very little unsold was carried back. They were transported on horseback, in packs of sacking, each making one load: no carriage or carriage road was heard of in the country before the abolition of the heritable jurisdictions. All the carriers, and many of the smaller farmers in the vicinity of Aberdeen, were employed for 10 or 12 days before the market: they travelled in caravans, from a dozen to 40 together; their approach was announced with joy, when first descried upon the brow of the distant hill—“ There comes summer eve, and the foremost troop of the packers.” Numbers of trading people, and manufacturers from Glasgow, Perth, and Dundee, and from other towns in the south, were met by all the merchants in the western Highlands, and northerly parts of the kingdom, from the distance even of Kirkwall and the Orkney Isles, for settling accompts and arranging new commissions. To this fair also was brought the whole manufacture of coarse woolen cloths, with all the black cattle and horses, several thousands of each, from all the country far and wide around. For cattle and horses, it is still by much the greatest fair in the north. It is not now to be conceived in what manner such a vast concourse of people, and such store of merchant goods, could have been lodged in such a little place, where more strangers in black coats from the Highlands and Islands alone assembled than now make up the whole market together. Male and female, with such mutual accommodations

dations as circumstances allowed, lay together in dozens and scores upon straw, with blankets, in all the pantries, barns, and kilns of the town, and of the farms, to the distance of miles all around:—such was then the simplicity of manners!

It is not difficult to account for the superiority to which Banff has attained. Fordyce remains the same; and Cullen is but very little improved. Though its constitution as a burgh royal is not common, that could have no influence on its manufactures or trade. Its charter of constitution, granted by Charles II. about the same date with that of Banff, constitutes it a burgh of constabulary, with the powers and privileges of a burgh royal. The principal magistrate has not the title of Provost, but simply the common discrimination of Preses, with 3 Baillies, a Dean of Guild, and Treasurer; he is chosen out of the whole council, which consists of 19 members; they all continue in office during the pleasure of the majority of themselves. The Earl of Findlater is always the Preses; and one of their Baillies is now more than in the fortieth year of his dignity unchanged.

The town of Old Keith, however, has declined considerably since the establishment of the New, which was begun about the year 1750 by the Earl of Findlater, upon a barren moor, feued off in tenements, containing 15 by 60 yards, at the duty of 10s. yearly. It is formed on a regular plan of three parallel streets, intersected by narrower lanes, and by one spacious square, to which the fair of summer-eve has been transferred. These villages contain about 1267 inhabitants, of which about 200 only appertain to Old Keith.

As a rival to this thriving village, the family of Fife established also a new town in the vicinity of an old little village named New-mill. Both villages contain only about 400 inhabitants, for the most part poor people, who have settled there for the accommodation of peat fuel and a small croft of land.

There are a few farms of very respectable extent, from £.60 to £.100 of rent: the greater number rent from £.20 to £.40. Besides what may be accounted the burgh lands of Keith, there are many fields enclosed: the farm of Crossairdly, on the Earl of Fife's estate, and that of Drum, the property of the other Peer, may be accounted as completely enclosed. The rent, by the acre, varies from 5s. to about 15s. according to the quality of the soil; around the villages, it rises to about £.1. 10s. The land is cultivated by

about 380 oxen and 523 horses; besides which, it maintains about 1600 black cattle, and more than 2000 sheep.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church is a large awkward incommodious building. The walls, though low, require the support of many buttresses, and the number of the doors is equal to that of the windows; and as a singular display of Caledonian taste, the steeple was lately lowered one storey in height, to make way for the belfry, at once the sign of the poverty of the church, and of the thirst of the landholders of Scotland. The stipend is L.88. 17s. 6d. and 32 bolls of oatmeal, the expence of the communion included. A small part of the village of Keith is placed upon the glebe; but the rent drawn from the houses now is scarcely equal to the value of the crops which might be raised upon the land. The right of patronage appertains to Sir William Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar. The school has been long in a very flourishing state: the salary is 12 bolls of meal, and about L.6 as the emoluments of the office of session clerk, which, it has been said, is by the statute of King William annexed to the office of parochial schoolmaster; although the session, if they see cause, may employ another clerk; to be paid by another fund. Besides this establishment, Alex. Ogilvie Esq. writer to the signet, in the year 1647, destined his mill and lands of Edindiach, a part of the barony of Kempcairn, for “building and “upholding the school-house, and maintaining a schoolmaster in “the parochin of Keith,” appointing the minister and elders trustees for this endowment. They, after a ten years’ litigation in the Court of Session respecting a claim of abstracted tithes, exchanged the whole property for the yearly payment of the sum of L.16. 14s. sterling, which the presbytery of Strathbogie and the synod of Moray ratified about the year 1757. It is now a part of the estate of the Earl of Findlater, with the burden of this payment: and since the fabric of the parochial school became ruinous, the parish has been accommodated with the town-hall, in the great square of Keith, in consequence probably of the clause of Mr. Ogilvie’s destination, “for building and upholding the school-house;” but by this arrangement, the master is obliged to provide lodgings from his own funds. The mean number of scholars which the school retains may be estimated at 60. The number of poor upon the roll amounts to 40, and the money contributed by the people in their assemblies for public worship amounts to L.40; besides which,

they

they have a capital of L.100, settled at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. interest; and about the sum of L.12 is farther raised by fines for fornication and irregular marriages, including L.4. 4s. as rent drawn for the pews in a gallery let by the session. Besides these contributions, they collect about L.6 sterling in the year, including a small contingent from the Roman Catholic chapel, for the Infirmary Hospital of Aberdeen, which procures the benefit of that endowment for any of the inhabitants that may apply. The members of the Established Church amount to 2838: the dissenters of the Church of Rome are 122, those of the Episcopalian Church of Scotland 59, and 131 are Antiburgh Seceders.

*Miscellaneous Information.*]—The people in general are sensible, shrewd, and intelligent: all ranks are regular in their attendance on the ordinances of religion: they maintain great decorum of behaviour, and value themselves on respectability of character: they have no pastime or holidays, except dancing about Christmas. The artizans and manufacturers appear more cheerful, and seem happier than the farmers, as many among them find difficulties in living, and are not improving their circumstances.

The principal branches of manufacture are flax-dressing, spinning, and weaving; but the prevailing predilection for cotton-cloths, the importation of Irish yarn to Glasgow, which is the principal market for the yarn of Keith, and the high price of Dutch flax, have contributed to depress those branches of manufacture; and the manufacturers, from some speculation of monopoly in their own favour, discourage raising flax in the parish, by bringing what they work from Holland. Almost every farmer, however, has a small proportion, seldom exceeding an acre, under flax; and the flax-surveyor appointed by the Trustees at Edinburgh has generally from 16 to 18 acres of flax, which over the whole parish is a thriving and profitable crop, and its whole economy is sufficiently understood. The parish is accommodated with 3 flax-mills, a tannage, a distillery, and 2 bleacheries on the banks of the Isle, with well designed and very complete machinery.

Tradition records an encounter in Old Keith about 150 years ago, between Mr. Gordon of Glengerack, one of the proprietors, and Roy McGrigor, the head of a band of robbers, who, after a desperate resistance, was defeated and taken, and the band completely dispersed.

A party,

A party, about 100, of the troops in the rebellion of 1746, allowed themselves to be surprised in this village, and were defeated by the rebels with considerable slaughter.

The Druid circles are the tokens, that a country had been peopled in times extremely remote. In the county of Banff, there are large tracts in which none were ever known to be seen. Several however in this parish have of late been removed, for the use of the stone: one remains very entire on the summit of a mountain named the CARDS-HILL, denoting in the Gaelic *the hill of friends*, where the Druid brethren maintained their social worship. There is a pretty waterfall in the river of Isla, a little below the village of Keith: it is only about 14 feet in height, but it spreads out in the shape of a fan to a considerable breadth, before it reaches a large circular deep pool. On its bank the ruins of Lord Oliphant's castle remains, of which there is a pretty, though merely imaginary, drawing in Cordiner's Scenery of Scotland. Tradition relates, that a part of this edifice projected over the pool of the cascade, in which the plate was deposited; the foundation failed, and the whole submerged to the bottom. His Lordship brought experienced divers from England, the first of whom, having gone down, floated after a considerable time to the surface, his bowels torn out: none of the rest had resolution to make another essay, and the plate was lost. Were this certain, a small sum could yet get the river dammed up between the rocks of the fall, and the pool wholly emptied.

The oldest records of the session are dated in 1686. Sir James Strachan, Bart. of Thorntown, was at that time the minister. In the year 1690 he was deprived of his living, for not perceiving at the first the advantages of the revolution. Mr. Lachlan Rose was engaged by the people to supply his place: in 1694 some complaints were made of him to a committee of the General Assembly, then sitting at Elgin: they declared him an intruder, and proclaimed the church vacant; in which condition, it was allowed, during these purest times of presbytery, to remain for nearly seven years, till the admission of Mr. John Christie in the year 1700.

## NUMBER XLIV.

## PARISH OF ROTHES.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.*]—THE river Spey has been described as holding a course nearly from west to east, and almost parallel to the Frith, through the districts of Badenagh and Strathspey. Had this course been continued, it would have fallen into the sea near Portsoy, or have probably conjoined its stream with the waters of the Duvran. The mountain of Beneagen, lying across this course at a little distance from the lower Craigelachy, bends it into a direction nearly from south to north; in which, save sundry short inflexions, it hastens more directly, and almost at right angles, to the sea. The plains of Rothes lie in the same direction for 9 miles along its western bank; the estate of Oakenwall only occupying about the space of a mile, in the form of a peninsula, at the bottom of the mountain, on the other side. Besides the defile called the Glen of Rothes, opened through the hill towards Elgin, which has been already noticed No. VIII. there are two other valleys stretching along the sides of their respective streams westward into the hills, where many improvements have within the space of 50 years been made, now yielding a rent, with others on the banks of smaller brooks, of more than L.150. The hills, at certain distances bending near to the bank of the river, have shaped the country into four detached plains, Dunnalieth, Rothes, Dundurcos, and Ortown. Besides the plains, the slopes along the bottom of the hills are closely cultivated: the banks of the river in many places are fringed with stripes of natural wood; and extensive well disposed plantations occupy the uncultivated sides of the hill. The northern frontier of the parish skirts along the confines of Dollas, Birnie, Elgin, St. Andrews' Lhanbryd, and Speymouth.

The soil along the river may, in general, be described as a fertile loam; in some places, a purer clay; and in others, rather surcharged with sand, superinduced by the floods: along the bottom of the hills, it is a sharp gravelly mould, a little incumbered by the smaller loose stone: in the improvements within the limits of the mountain, it is moorish, in some places inclining to clay, in others to sand.

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The climate below Craigelachy, though more rainy, is not colder than in the open plain of Moray; yet, being more distant from the sea, the snow lies deeper, and the harvests are, in general, more late.

The Gaelic name RATHUISH signifies *the bending of the water*, RATH, or ROTH, signifying *a wheel*, nearly as in the Latin.

*State of Property.*.—Six proprietors possess the parish. The only family seat is at Ortown, the property of the honourable Arthur Duff of the family of Fife. A level plain of fertile corn-field spreads backward about a mile from the river; a green bank sweeps circular upon the other side, presenting near its margin above an elevated enchanting situation for the house, a modern large elegant building of four stories, with a neat pavillion roof: besides the hall, a parlour and 3 bed-chambers occupy the ground floor: on the first floor is a magnificent suite of public rooms; the paintings, though pretty numerous, are for the most part family and other portraits; there is a specimen or two of the polygraphic art, landscapes no way distinguishable from common paintings: on the third floor the library occupies a spacious room, fitted up in an elegant and commodious manner. Eastward on the same plain with the house, is a thriving orchard, within the skirts of a sheltering grove; under the bank is the garden, and a considerable extent of wall for the more delicate fruitage: the bank offers an inviting walk, with its ornamented shrubbery; groves judiciously disposed, and circling belts afford their shade and shelter to the circumjacent fields; and a great extent of flourishing plantation, fir, larix, and forest trees, clothes the side of the mountain behind. On one prominent intermediate height, a neat modern watch tower commands the course of the river, Gordon Castle, and its decorated environs, and all the plain northward, and a great extent of the sea. The valued rent is L.412 Scots. Garbity on the south of Ortown and Inchberry on the north, the property of the Duke of Gordon, are valued at L.324. 3s. Inchberry is connected with his Grace's property of Speymouth, and parted from his lands in Bellie only by the river.

To the Earl of Findlater, connected with his property in S. Andrews Lhanbryd, Elgin, Birnie, and Knockando, appertains the lordship of Rothes, amounting to the valuation of L.1621. 14<sup>1</sup> 10d. Scots. In the year 1766 a village was begun to be built on the

the plain of Rothes, upon leases of 38 years, and the life-rent thereafter of the possessor, after which the building becomes the property of the landlord: each tenement is the eighth part of an acre, at the rent of 10s. yearly: from an half to two acres of land, at the rate of a guinea the acre, save where the soil is greatly inferior, is occupied with each tenement, but without any lease. The village at present accommodates about 300 inhabitants. In the year 1796 there were set off 41 additional tenements, for its farther enlargement. The establishment of no manufacture has been yet proposed, though a considerable stream, working a corn and fulling mill, washes the whole length of its street: a few artizans only supply the exigencies of the country. Pitcraiggy, and the glen, in which there is a snug commodious house and garden, on the margin of a little brook under the side of a hill, covered with a considerable extent of birch, called the Torwood, is the property of Robert Cumming of Logie Esq. The valued rent is L.74. 15s. The estate of Auchnaroath, on which there is a great extent of various plantation, and many smaller rising groves, is the property of William Robertson Esq. merchant of Elgin. The valued rent is L.35 Scots. Dakenwall, in the county of Banff, the property of David Mc Dowal Grant of Airndilly Esq. adjoining to his other property, is valued at L.130: extending the valuation of the parish to L.2697. 15s. 10d. Scots.

There are several farms of very commodious extent, rising to the extent of L.80 of rent: several are from L.10 to about L.40: the rents of the generality of the possessions in the newer lands in the hills are even under L.10. The whole number of acres under culture are about 2500, and the present real rent does not much exceed the sum of L.1200 sterl.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—Although a chapel in Roman Catholic times stood, no doubt, on the farm of Chapelhill, yet the parish remained unaltered in its extent, from the first establishment of parochial districts until the year 1782, when the suppressed parish of Dundurcos was divided between those of Boharm and Rothes.—Experience hath shewn, that the general accommodation of the people hath not been thereby in any degree impaired. The church, moved from its ancient station in the burying ground, is conveniently placed in the village. About the year 1630, Mr. John Wemyss, brother to the Earl of Wemyss, and minister of the pa-

rish, made a private agreement with the proprietors, fixing the stipend at L.20. 12s. and 45 bolls of oatmeal, and which was first changed by the annexation of part of Dundurcos. It is now established by a decree in 1794 to be L.54. 4s. 4d. 63 bolls of meal, and 35 of barley, the communion allowance included. The whole glebe at Dundurcos was by exchangion annexed to the glebe of Rothes, which now consists of about 16 acres. One third of the right of patronage, by the annexation from Dundurcos, appertains to the Crown, and the other two-thirds to the Earl of Findlater. The salary of the school has been lately, with some opposition, augmented from L.1. 12s. and 6 bolls of meal, to an establishment of L.11. 2s. 2½d. with the customary fees from about 40 scholars, and the perquisites of the office of session clerk. The number of poor is 30: the provision for their support, raised from the people in common form, aided by two endowments, amounting together to L.1, is equal to an annual dividend of L.15 sterling. The members of the national Church are 1450. The Dissenters, about 50, assume the profession of any preacher who pleases to officiate in the old church at Dundurcos, which, when first vacated on the suppression of the parish, was occupied by an insane preacher, and, since he wandered off, by persons generally unknown, professing to be Methodists.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people are in every case obliging, frugal, industrious, and discreet, and much attached to the national religion and government. In Roman Catholic times, the parish was under the peculiar protection of St. Lawrence. The rights of his fair were long ago, by purchase, translated to the town of Forres; but his well, a fountain distinguished by the purity and lightness of its water, is still recognised. On the estate of Ortown there was a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary. There also was a sacred well, which, like the patent medicines of the passing time, was for many ages of the most distinguished celebrity, for the miraculous cure of all manner of disease. The passing generation have seen pilgrimages from the most remote parts of the Highlands and from the Western Isles; but they are now wholly discontinued. The tomb-stone of the first minister of the Presbyterian establishment is still entire, in the tomb of a family of the same lineage: it simply relates, that "Here lies ane nobleman, Mr. James Leslie, parson of Rothes, brother-german to George, umquhile Earl

"the same, who departed in the Lord, 13th October 1576."—The copy of the Solemn League and Covenant, which was subscribed at Rothes in the year 1643, is still extant; by which it appears, that in this quarter the subscription of it was not rigorously enforced. It is printed at Edinburgh by Evan Tyler, printer to the King's Majestie, on two sheets of small coarse paper, in quarto. The first contains the approbations of the General Assembly and of the Convention of Estates, both dated on the 17th Aug. 1643, and the ordinance of the Estates for swearing and subscribing the Covenant, dated 11th Oct. thereafter: and the blank pages are for the subscribers' names, which are, Mr. Rob. Tod, minister of the gospel at Rothes—Leslie—Patrick Leslie, elder—Walter Leslie—Robert Leslie—Wm. Innes—John Guthrie, elder—Wm. Farquhar, who subscribes also for nine others, elders, adding a docet, " Thir are in name of the elders that could not subscribe themselves, who professed their consent formalie, and that I, William Farquhar, clerk to the session, should subscribe for them."

## NUMBER XLV.

## PARISH OF BELLIE.

*Situation, Soil, Climate.]*—By this long progression, the survey concluded in the parish of Bellie, upon the sea shore, at the mouth of the Spey, from whence, upon the other side, the circuit began. The name is Gaelic: three etymological explanations have been suggested: one supposes it BEALIDH, signifying *broom*; very unlikely to be right, considering that when the names of places were anciently imposed, the parish could not have been peculiarly distinguished by that shrub: another, which supposes the name to be BEULAITH, *the ford mouth*, is more unfortunate still; the hardy habitants of ancient times found the river almost every-where fordable; the parish on the other bank must have had an equal claim to this significantly figurative epithet; and the channel of the river, shifted almost by every flood, has in every age made the allow to-day the whirlpool to-morrow. But as ancient record concurs with present appearance to establish, that the sea once

flowed farther in upon the shore, it having retired almost half a mile on the coast of this parish, even within the memory of people still alive, it can be hardly doubted that the curvature in the bank where Gordon Castle stands was once a bay of the ocean; it must be presumed, that the camp near the church of Bellie, already noticed, was formed by the Romans in connection with their fleet, when under Agricola they made the circuit of the isle. Whether a barbarian town existed upon their arrival, or whether their general practice of reconciling themselves, like the adventurers of present times, to the savages whom they visited, might have induced a settlement in this vicinity; such an establishment, in that situation, would naturally be denominated by the natives **BALL-LI**, or **BALL-LITH**, *the town of the flood*: and the tradition, that Fochabers once stood near the church-yard of Bellie, and the Roman camp, corroborates this explanation of the name.

The parish is in the form of a triangle: the one side, from south to north along the Spey, is about 5 miles; the other along the coast easterly, from the influx of the river to the mouth of the brook of Tynete, is about 4; and the returning side, from the mouth of that brook back to Ordyfish on the bank of the Spey, is nearly equal to 6. From the angle at Ordyfish, the surface of the parish seems divided into three different flats, each rising about 20 feet above the other, and spreading like the quadrants of the concentric circles which the fall of a stone forms in a pond: the lowest is along the bed of the river, and so little above the level of the stream, that much of it is laid under water by every flood: the second flat begins also near Ordyfish, and continues spreading like the first as it tends towards the coast; but the first encroaches upon it in the curvature where Gordon Castle stands: and the third, or highest flat, from near the same corner, is less regular than the others, encroaching also in some places on the second, where the mountain seems as if projected on the plain.

Upon the bank of the river the soil is thin, upon a sole of gravel, the bottom either of the shifting river or of the retiring ocean near the coast, where the more still waters had deposited more sediment, it is a deep and fertile loam; upon the higher flats the soil is of a kindly mould, save where it stretches back into the mountain, where it is moorish, wet, and spongy: in some places it is a deep red colour, by a ferruginous or ocreous substance, super-

induced

induced by the streams from the mountain, which in this quarter, under the moorish surface, is composed of a vast deep bed of clay gravel, of that quality and colour; and each rill, during heavy rain, or a sudden thaw of snow, appears a wondrous torrent of thick deep red gore. The air, though healthful, is rather cold and dry, yet temperate on the whole, and the winters generally mild.

*State of Property.]*—Of all this parish, the valued rent of which is L.3082. 8s. Scots, the Duke of Gordon is proprietor, excepting one farm in its out-skirts belonging to the Earl of Findlater. Towards the southern end of the parish, on the second flat, is the town of Fochabers; a Gaelic name, which, like the parish, has received more than one explanation; the most probable refers it to the numerous fountains, where the village was lately placed: the other, which refers it to the field destined for the *weapon shew*, will be generally rejected, on the consideration that it must have obtained its name before either the practice or the statutes requiring meetings for the exhibition or the exercise of arms were introduced. The turbulent state of society in ancient times generally raised a village in the vicinity of every castle, for the mutual security which both the fortress and the people afforded to each other: but in the peaceful security which the wisdom and energy of the present constitution has so long maintained, it is more pleasant to have the palace environed by the ornamented grounds of an extensive park; in this regard, the Duke of Gordon, several years ago, purchased the property of the town, then situated not far from his gate, and feued off the present village, at a handsome yet commodious distance. This new town is a clean neat burgh of barony; all its streets are straight, crossing each other at right angles; and the great road to London conducted through the centre of its grand square; three sides of which, pretty uniformly built, are the mansions of the inhabitants; the fourth is occupied by the public buildings, the church, detached in the middle between two large handsome houses of uniform exterior, one occupied as the manse, the other containing the parochial school and town-hall.

Off the highway, between the town and the river, is the great gate to Gordon Castle; a lofty arch between neat domes, elegantly finished, and greatly ornamental to the scenery of the environs; its front bears some resemblance to the outline of the castle, and it is similarly

similarly embellished by a handsome battlement within the gate; the road winds about a mile through a green parterre, skirted with flowering shrubbery and groupes of tall spreading trees, till it is lost in an oval before the front of the castle. There, is besides this, another approach from the east, sweeping for several miles through the varied scenery of the park, enlivened by different pleasant views of the country around, the river, and the ocean, till it also terminates at the great door of this princely mansion.

The situation of the castle is on the lowest of the flats that have been described; it commands a long extended view of the whole plain, with all its wood, and a variety of sheets of the river glittering onwards to the sea, comprehending also the town and shipping of Garmach, and a large handsome edifice that terminates the plain on the shore, the hall and other buildings for the accommodation of the salmon fishery.

The castle was originally built by George II. Earl of Huntly; altered and enlarged in every succeeding age: it has of late been almost built of new by his Grace, in all the elegant magnificence of modern architecture; it extends in front to the goodly length of 568 feet, from east to west; being however of different depths, the breaks make a variety of light and shade, which takes off the appearance of excess in uniformity. The body of the building is of 4 stories; and in its southern front stands the tower entire of the original castle, by much ingenuity making a part of the modern palace, and rising many feet above it. The wings are magnificent pavillions of two lofty stories, connected by galleries of two lower stories; and beyond the pavillions, buildings are extended, equally to either hand, of one floor and an attic story. The whole of this vast edifice, externally, is of white hard free-stone, smoothly cut in the most elegant manner, and finished all around, like the gate, by a rich cornice and a handsome battlement.

The hall of this magnificent structure is embellished by a copy of the Apollo Belvidere, and of the Venus de Medicis, beautifully executed of statuary marble, by Harwood. Here also, by the same ingenious statuary, are busts of Homer, Caracalla, M. Aurelius, Faustina, and a Vestal. At the bottom of the great stairs, are busts also of J. Cæsar, Cicero, and Seneca, all raised on elegant pedestals of Sienna marble; with these last, stands a bust of Cosmo III.

duke

duke of Tuscany, a connection of the family of Gordon, on an elevated pedestal of painted timber. The stairs and passages are kept warm by a stove placed in this sumptuous apartment.

Two spacious halls for the different ranks of servants, with two baths, cellars, and other requisite accommodations, occupy the rest of the ground floor.

The first floor contains the dining room, drawing room, breakfast room, the bed-chamber of slate, with its dressing room, and several other elegant apartments. All the rooms are judiciously proportioned, sumptuously finished, and the distribution of light managed to the greatest advantage. The side-board is within the recess of the dining room, separated by lofty Corinthian columns of Scagliola, in imitation of verd antique marble.

In this room are copies, by Angelica Kauffman, of Venus and Adonis, and of Danaë, by Titian; of Abraham and Hagár, of Joseph and Potiphar's wife, by Guercino; of Dido and St. Cecilia, by Dominichino; besides several portraits.

In the drawing room is a portrait of the Duke by Raeburn, and of the Duchefs by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and some beautiful screens done by the young ladies.

In the breakfast room is a copy, by Angelica Kauffman, of the celebrated St. Peter and St. Paul, the masterpiece of Guido Rheni, esteemed the most valuable in the Sampiori palace at Bologna, and one of the best paintings in the world: 10,000 sequins, it is said, had been offered for it. It represents St. Paul rebuking the apostle for his base dissimulation with the Jews, respecting the obligation of the ceremonial law, and concealing his communications with the uncircumcised, related in the Epistle to the Galatians; and the apostle is represented as much ashamed of his mean hypocrisy. By the same master, there is also a copy of Herodias and the Baptist's Head in the Charger; and a copy by Guercino of the Persian Sibyl. On each side of the chimney is an original painting by Kauffman, Ulysses and Calypso, Bacchus and Ariadne. Opposite to these is a highly finished full-length portrait of the Duke, leaning on a horse, a gun in his hand, and dead game lying near, by Pompeijo Battoni of Rome. A fine small original of the Abbe d'Aubignie in his study, and a strikingly expressive head of St. John receiving the Revelation in Patmos, contribute also their embellishment to this magnificent room.

The upper stories are occupied by bed-chambers, except the library in the third, and the music room in the fourth floor, both directly over the dining room, and of its dimensions. In all these numerous apartments are valuable paintings, many of them family portraits, descriptive of the dresses of their respective times; some fine hunting and pastoral pieces by Rosa de Tivoli; beautiful ruins, and a curious caricature group of Scots and English travellers, acquainted with the Duke, who happened to meet at Florence.

The library contains several thousand volumes, and is well furnished with geographical and astronomical instruments. There is a folio MS. of the Vulgate Bible, and two MS. Missals, elegantly illuminated. There is also a very clean MS. of Bernard Gordon's *Lignum Medicinæ*, mentioning at the end the names of the copiers, and the year 1319.

Gordon Castle being situated on that range of flat ground where the sea had formed a semicircular bay, or where the river had winded in a wide-bending sweep, is of course environed on one side by the second range of higher ground. This bank, where nature has done much, is also highly ornamented by the embellishments of art, being on the side of a great park, containing 10 or 12 square miles. The wood, without the appearance of design, is prettily disposed upon the plain, and on the side of the mountain above: it spreads a boundless forest, affording cover for vast numbers of mountain deer, and containing in its skirts an ample inclosure stocked with fallow deer. These ornamented grounds, which spread so far on every side around the castle, occupy the upper part of the parish, the town of Fochabers included, with what may be called its borough lands, but which are held from the Duke only from year to year.

The lower part is parcelled out into small farms, partly occupied in detached acres, intermingled with each other's possessions, and several of the tenants along the river pay their rents by the wages of their employment in the fishery. In the higher ranges of the district, the farms are less hampered, but none so large as to admit of the most advantageous system of agriculture. The average rent from the acre, including the lands and meadows in the park of Gordon Castle, may be estimated at L.1. 3s. sterling.

*State Ecclesiastical.]*—The church, until of late, was near the Roman camp, about a mile northward from the castle, and nearer

to the sea: it is now placed in the town of Fochabers: a building that would be ornamental to any city of the empire. It was designed and executed by the celebrated architect, Mr. Baxter of Edinburgh: it is built of free-stone from the Dairay quarries, neatly cut. In its front is an elegant portico, raised on Doric columns, and from behind the pediment springs a light and handsome steeple, about 100 feet in height. Within it is provided with a stove, and fitted up and finished in the most complete and neatest manner for the accommodation of 1200 people, and at the cost of L.2000 sterling. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is L.72. 6s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and a glebe near the town of 13 acres. It is hardly necessary to mention, that the right of patronage appertains to his Grace, or that the burying ground is continued where the old church stood.

To this parish appertains a portion of the Enzie mission. The chapel is situated about 5 miles from the town, on the confines of the parish of Rathven. For this establishment, two general contributions were made over all the church of Scotland, before or about the year 1730; and though at present the amount would be accounted trifling, yet by the thrifty management of the presbytery of Forres, under whose care it was originally placed, it accumulated to capital sufficient to purchase a glebe of 8 acres, with a house, and provision of L.50 yearly, for the minister, besides a fund for keeping the buildings always in repair. The Duke of Gordon sold the fund for this accommodation, and gave security for the capital, for which pious concern the General Assembly voted to him the thanks of the Church. The management has been since preposterously placed under a committee of 7 clergymen, mostly of Edinburgh, and 7 laymen of the profession of the law, continued from the General Assembly to another—unconnected with this country, acquainted also and unconcerned about its particular interests.

In the town of Fochabers there is a neat Roman Catholic chapel, and another about 4 miles distant, where the clergyman of this communion resides. His income is supposed to be paid in part from funds in the disposal of foreign universities.

Schools, a radical branch of the state of this realm, both civil and ecclesiastic, may be regarded as the workshops in which mankind are formed of the raw material. Much therefore among the middle and lower orders of society must ever depend upon the discretion

cretion and abilities of a schoolmaster. But how little ought to be expected in the man, whose most assiduous toil scarcely earns L.20 in the year, and who, although the efficient parent of all that distinguishes civilization from barbarism, and government from anarchy, is nevertheless neglected, despised, starved. The salary of the parochial school is 14 bolls of meal, with the other statutory dues; the number of scholars generally 60.

In the vicinity of the Enzie chapel, the Society for Christian Knowledge have established a school, with an appointment of L.10 yearly to the master, and a temporary allowance of L.5 yearly to his wife, for her attention to the female pupils. The scholars in all are accounted about 100. The Duke bestows the accommodations which the Society require.

The provision for the poor is considerable. Besides the money contributed by the families which attend the church, there is a sum bearing yearly interest: both are divided among the poor, without regard to their being dissenters from the national church: and in addition to these, there is a pension by the Duke to 10 decayed labourers, who had been employed in the service of his Grace.

The members of the Established Church are 1400; those of the Church of Rome are 650; there are a few of the Scots Episcopalians, and some Antiburger Seceders, amounting together to the number of 20.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The Roman camp has been noticed in a preceding chapter. Upon the farm of Upper Dallachy, about a mile from the shore, there lately was a low conical mound. It was known by the name of the *green cairn*. Tradition recognized it as the tomb of a chief of ancient renown; and it remained unviolated, through all the changes of many generations, until a few years ago. It consisted of about 12 feet deep of rich mould, incumbent on an accumulation of small fragments of stone, nearly the same height, surrounded at the base by a double row of stones erect, similar to the circles of the Druid temples. Among the great accumulation of fragments, was a stone coffin of unpolished flags: a small quantity of black ashes was its whole content. Near the circumference, about two feet under the surface, was also found an urn, the rude workmanship of the potter, about eight inches in diameter, and one foot in height; and on shaking out the mould with which it was filled, a piece of polished gold appeared.

in form like the handle of a vase: it was 3-10ths of an inch thick, its ends about an inch asunder; on them the folder, or the appearance of silver, remained, which by the application of aquafortis was dissolved. To form a conjecture of its use is in vain: its value in bullion was about L.12 sterling.

Besides the salmon fishery in the river, which by its valued rent must appertain to Speymouth, although the buildings for its accommodation are on the coast of this parish, there is also a still salmon fishery in the salt water of some consideration.

A small proportion of the parish, answering to L.242. 8s. Scots of the valued rent, on which also a part of Gordon Castle stands, is in the county of Moray: the greater part of the Castle and of the parish are within the sheriffdom of Banff. In its ecclesiastical jurisdiction, it is in the synod and commissariot of Moray, and in the presbytery of Strathbogie.

## CHAPTER IV.

OF THE STATE OF AGRICULTURE, ROADS, AND HINTS FOR  
IMPROVEMENT.

THE business of agriculture, though complicated, is so much dependent on the weather, that the practice must in a great measure be regulated by its general constitution, and its success will always be in proportion to the skill and care with which the practice is adapted to the temperature of the climate.

In the mild and uniform clime of Asia, where agriculture, with the first generation of man, commenced, its operations were simple, and their effects were sure; while, partly from the accident of experience, and partly from reflection, it must have also been progressively improved: but under the variable and inclement sky of the northern regions, the first emigrants found their unskilful operations encountered with such insurmountable obstacles, that agriculture was totally abandoned, and in a short time completely forgotten, and a miserable existence was for some generations supported by such scanty and insufficient aliment as the earth spontaneously supplied. Where any region afforded game, man lived principally by hunting—an animal of prey, with the carnivorous beasts of the forest. Where the country afforded little shelter for the larger quadrupeds, similar to Cape Horn and Van Diemen's Land, they had little for their support, save such fish and eggs as they could gather on the shore. Thus in the age of Julius Cæsar, about 1800 years ago, the Dutch, who inhabited the islands formed by the mouths of the Rhine, knew neither how to procure milk or flesh, but subsisted entirely on the eggs of wild fowl which chance presented, and on the fishes they could catch in the shallower waters. Com. lib. iv. cap. 10. But in that same age, the savages of the interior of Germany had advanced farther in the progress of civilization: having even got beyond the hunter state, they had domesticated the animals which have been found the fittest for the occasions of the herdsman.

"They regard not agriculture," says he, lib. 6. cap. 22. : "they subsist mostly on milk, cheese, and flesh: nor have any a certain

" extent

“ extent of land, or peculiar boundaries; but the magistracy, or  
“ chieftains, assign yearly to each tribe or family, lands in such a  
“ district and in such quantity as they please, and oblige them in  
“ the year following to remove, lest, attached by habit, they should  
“ change their warlike genius for agriculture, lest they should en-  
“ deavour to extend their boundaries, the more powerful expelling  
“ the weak, and lest they should build too delicately against either  
“ cold or heat.” It had been mentioned, on another occasion, in  
the preceding chapter, that “ they are clothed in hides, and short  
“ mantles of skin, a great part of their bodies being naked.” The  
state of society in Britain during that age was in every respect similar:  
“ Among these,” says he, lib. v. cap. 14. “ they who inhabit Kent,  
“ wholly a maritime country, are by far the most civilized, differ-  
“ ing but little from the manners of Gaul. The inland people in  
“ general do not sow corn, but live on milk and flesh, and are  
“ clothed in skins.” It must therefore be presumed, that several  
hundreds of years must have passed after the age of Julius Cæsar,  
before the least knowledge of agriculture could reach the province  
of Moray. “ The knowledge of this, and indeed of all the other  
“ arts,” says Dr. Henry, Hist. of Britain, book i. chap. 5. “ en-  
“ tered Britain at the south-east corner, and travelled by slow and  
“ gradual steps towards the north-west. With regard to agricul-  
“ ture, we are assured by a contemporary and well-informed au-  
“ thor, that it had advanced no farther than the wall of Hadrian  
“ [between the Solway Frith and the mouth of the Tyne] in the  
“ beginning of the third century; for when the Emperor Severus  
“ invaded Caledonia, A.D. 207, we are told that the Maeatae and the  
“ Caledonians, who inhabited all the island beyond the wall of Ha-  
“ drian, inhabited barren uncultivated mountains, or desert marshy  
“ plains, and that they had neither walls, towns, nor cultivated  
“ lands, but lived on the flesh and milk of their flocks and herds,  
“ and on what they got by plunder, or catched by hunting, and on  
“ the fruits of trees.” It is probable that the knowledge of agri-  
“ culture was introduced with the light of the gospel, and that the  
“ first preachers of Christianity were the first ploughmen, and when  
“ they converted our ancestors from heathens, they changed them  
“ also from indolent herdsmen into industrious husbandmen, and  
“ sowed there were herbs, the seeds of which would maintain the  
“ people, and the stems or straw support also their cattle.

From the time that the Pope was regarded as the representative of Jesus upon earth, the clergy of this country were induced, on various accounts, to make frequent journeys through Flanders, France, and Italy, as far as Rome. Besides the lands which themselves had every-where obtained, they had also, by the tithes that were drawn in kind, an interest in the crop of every layman. Although the state of society was the same, in those ages, on the Continent as here, yet, from the superiority of the soil and climate, agriculture had been advanced farther there, and the clergy brought back the improvements of the Continent: for the chieftains of Britain in those days, far different from the great men of ancient Rome, would have thought themselves vastly dishonoured by any connection whatever with the cultivation of the soil. Similar to the uniformity of religion which the clergy were then able to maintain, they spread also one uniform practice of tillage, with the same implements over all the state. Simple as this practice was, it was not however skilfully adapted to the variation of climate which takes place in the opposite sides of this quarter of the island; and although in some years corn was in great plenty, yet seasons of scarcity were also frequent, and the most disastrous famine from time to time prevailed. From them it is supposed that we are now exempted, by the extension of the seed season almost through the whole year, and by the variety of grain, roots, and leaves, which the present improved system affords. In the interior of the country, by the word *corn* oats only are understood; from which, among other considerations, it may be inferred, that this species of grain was at the first only cultivated. Barley, however, was also at an early period introduced; but comparatively it is only of late years that wheat, rye, pease, and beans, were cultivated; and it is still within the remembrance of the passing generation, that the culture of potatoe, turnip, and clover, with several kinds of garden stuff, began to be practised.

The generality, feeling the pressure of the present times, have fondly believed that former ages were better; yet, though many inconveniences of the present age were not then known, our ancestors were subjected to numberless heavier grievances, to which we are happily strangers. Murders, robberies, and thefts, were among them extremely common. Their cattle could only be secure by being lodged under the same roof, going out and in by the same door.

door with their owners; and the only mode of guarding against the the devastation of wilful fire, was having their houses and furniture of the least possible value. There was no variety of ranks, running insensibly into each, from the lowest up to the highest, as education, commerce, and a variety of occupations, have now produced: there were no parish schools, no public mails for correspondence or intelligence; and many even of the clergy could neither read nor write; they were however the only lawyers and physicians: burgesses were of no respectability: merchants were but poor pedlars: and when all the farmers held their lives, as well as their lands, at the capricious pleasure of the haughty landlords, no other distinction could be known among them but that alone of master and tenant. Poultry, with the improvement of capons, geese, and a few ducks, comprised the whole variety of fowl; the swine was reckoned still unclean; and beef, like venison, was eatable only at one season of the year. The clergy and great men had a few of the less delicate kinds of fruit; but gardens of every kind were wholly among the common people unknown: they only cultivated barley and oats: bread and water was their chief subsistence, and meal and milk their highest luxury. Agriculture had made no farther advance at the æra of the Reformation, when the wheat in the Bishop of Moray's rental was only 10 bolts, and the barley equal to 1232. By the convulsions which then ensued, all improvement was suspended: high and low entered so deeply into the reformation of church and state, that they had neither leisure nor inclination to improve the soil: and except some beneficial laws, regulating the valuation and the purchase of tithes, dividing commons, and establishing parish schools, preserving inclosures and woods, and making roads, (the advantages of which the present generation seem first, though not fully, to have perceived), every thing respecting tillage tended with accelerated progress to decay. During a struggle persisted in by four successive monarchs with their people, for prelacy instead of presbytery, agriculture fell so low by the end of the last century, as to be wholly unable to withstand the seven unfavourable seasons which then took place. In the higher parts of the country, the practice of agriculture was in that short period wholly abandoned: thousands of the people, leaving their homes, perished in the highways and streets, merely through insupportable hunger. The magistracy of Elgin established a police

lice for burying, on every dismal morning, the bodies of those miserable wretches that had fallen a prey to the famine under the piazzas in the course of each melancholy night. The straight ridges of equal breadth, which still remain in their dun robe of sterile heath, demonstrate that neither the population nor skill in agriculture which once prevailed have been yet fully restored. The skill however of the most advanced period, previous to the present times, consisted in the carefulness of the execution rather than in theoretic system; and saving where the distinction between croft and out-field had been adopted, little variation in that system took place for many centuries. By that system, the whole of each farm was managed in four pretty equal allotments; one of which was yearly prepared in rotation, by two or three plowings and manure, for a crop of barley, succeeded by three successive crops of oats, raised by one plowing only; varied in some cases by a crop of rye; where the soil was suited to that grain. The whole of every farm was under corn by the first of June, when the plough with all its tackle repos'd upon the joists till the conclusion of the harvest. The live stock, which on every farm consisted of black cattle, horses, and sheep, were maintained during the winter on the straw from which the corn was threshed, and in summer on the uncultivated pasture which nature presented on the farm itself; or, where that was insufficient, upon the more distant common pasture of the mountains, from which they were brought back in harvest, little improved in weight or figure. Plowing and threshing corn was the great business of the winter: securing the stock of fuel, and making a collection of earth, moorish turf, sand, or clay, for mixing with the dung produced from the fodder, formed the principal summer occupations. It was accounted disgraceful to want a sufficiency of this compost dung for the quarter allotted for barley: and it is still remembered of one honest husbandman having bribed his servant with a pair of breeches to support his character, by straining the insufficient dung-hill over the whole allotment.

The rents, during this system, were almost wholly paid in grain, with mutton, lamb, fowls, eggs, and variety of troublesome but insignificant services, exacted from every farm. Little grain however seems to have been exported from Moray; where it was not known that a boll of oats at Leith was less than their own provincial measure of 5 firlots. A respectable landholder, about 60 years

ago.

ago, sold 400 bushels, deliverable at that port. The price had fallen considerably before the cargo arrived. The merchant in that situation complained of the addition of a fifth more than the quantity bought; but after some epistolary correspondence, imputing mutual breach of bargain, the landholder's law-agent discovered the simplicity of the mistake, and the business was accommodated entirely to the merchant's satisfaction. Had this country at that time disposed yearly, as it does at present, of nearly 16,000 bushels of grain, this misunderstanding could not have happened.

It is evident then, that there is more corn raised at present, and that the people are in every respect more wealthy, more sumptuous in their buildings, furniture, and attire, more delicate and plentiful in their tables, vastly more enlarged in their civil rights and liberties, and also in their mental powers, both as to religious and common information, than their ancestors were, during any period of the ages that are past. Even their cattle share in some of these improvements: they are in general better treated in every respect than was practicable in former times.

It is established by Ossian and by Cæsar, that in this island wheel-carriages from the most remote antiquity were used in war, although, considering the roughness and steepness of the ground, the heroes of Morven must have been often stayed in their career. It may be however presumed, that the application of carriages to the purposes of husbandry was not introduced early into this country: when the whole of the instruments of agriculture were fabricated by the hands which also used them, they must have been simple in their design, and rude in their construction. The instruments still used by the poorer tenants in the Highland parishes are, for the most part, fabricated by themselves, in their pristine rudeness; unless it be the timber spade, with the edge only of iron, and the baskets in which the dung was carried to the field, which of late have disappeared: they were hung upon the horses' sides by the hooks of the saddle; their bottoms were only connected by a kind of hinge, and by the turning of a latch, they opened downwards, to discharge the load. The *bellach* however is still frequently to be seen: it is also a basket, formed pretty accurately into a cone, having the apex its bottom, suspended in a frame, projecting two shafts from the axle of two ill-formed wheels. It is constructed wholly without iron, and, though of late doubled in its price, may be still procured

from 7s. to 9s. Carts also, which seem to be formed upon the first unimproved idea, are still common: the wheels, about two feet diameter, are composed only of three pieces of plank, some inches thick, having a square hole in the centre, to which the axle is fitted, which of course turns round with the wheels, within wooden bows fixed under the sides of the body of the cart: the shafts are formed of the larger, and the body of the carriage of the smaller branches, cut into bars or batons, of the birch or aller tree. Without prolonging this description, it is only necessary to mention the board saddle, the timber crupper, and the straw collar, disregarding the difference between the load that can be drawn in such sorry harness, and that which could be drawn by the same power in a cart of more perfect construction.

Although iron is now almost universally substituted for the timber teeth of the harrow, which is generally four feet square, and for the most part furnished with 20 iron teeth, it is still a very imperfect instrument; the teeth being so disposed as to make only 11 different ruts, as several follow each other in the same track, and two in the corners make a slight and interrupted impression: it covers only about three feet of the land, and costs about 12s. or 14s. Several however are under, and a few above these general dimensions. An improvement has been suggested, by arranging 16 teeth in a harrow of the same size, so as each might move in a separate track, not quite four inches asunder. By a slight alteration in cutting the mortises, the second bull is projected so far behind the others, as that the path of a tooth in its extremity is exactly in the middle between the paths of the two last teeth of the first bull, or that by which the harrow is drawn; and by the reverse, in placing the mortises of the third bull, its end is protruded as much before as the second is extended behind, so as to have a teeth in its foremost end making a rut between the tracks of the two foremost teeth of the fourth bull. By this arrangement, the foremost teeth of the second bull passes through the second slot, and the last teeth of the third bull passes through the third slot. In making this harrow, it is obvious that the projecting ends of the two bulls must be guarded by plates or hoops of iron.

The most ancient fashion of the plough still maintains its credit among the poorer tenants in the western and higher parts of the country. It is in many cases formed by the tenant: in general a

clumsy

clumsy instrument, of great weight, though mostly without iron, except the coulter and the share, exclusive of which it may be still procured for 4s. or 5s. The greater part however of the ploughs are of the most approved form, although of various construction: when complete, neatly painted, and mounted with iron, it costs about two guineas.

The cart in some cases is drawn by two horses in a line; but it is more generally constructed for the draught only of one. With an iron axle complete, it costs L.8 or L.10 sterling. Though wooden axles are more generally used, there is no difference either in the price, or easiness of the draught; only the wooden axle hardly admits of being repaired. The proper shape of its arms is either not generally known, or not sufficiently regarded. The roller is not very generally used, though its use in most cases is pretty well ascertained; and it is only in the course of the last 20 years, that the application of the fanners has been familiar.

The operation of separating the corn from the straw requires much labour, and has exerted no little ingenuity. Although the ancients were acquainted with the simple instrument the *flail*, which has been so long and so generally used, their customary practice was more complicated and more varied: it depended greatly upon the *threshing floor*; and from the manner in which it is always mentioned in the bible, and by the rustic writers of ancient Rome, its construction alone must have been a matter of importance. The threshing floor of Atad was so distinguished, as to be a proper halting place for the family of Jacob, when conducting his funeral from Egypt to Canaan, though attended by a numerous retinue of chariots and horsemen, all the Court of Pharaoh, Gen. 1. 10. The threshing floor was circular, raised towards the centre, that any water might run quickly off, smoothed by the roller, and consolidated by the most binding clay: in some cases it was itself covered; in others, a covered place was built near, for the protection of the corn from a sudden shower. Hither it was carried directly from the field, where it was attended till completely winnowed. Boaz, in the book of Ruth, ch. iii. according to the usual practice, is represented as supping, drinking, and sleeping, by the heap of barley on the threshing floor: the address of the handsome widow is the only peculiar circumstance. Araunah sold his threshing floor, with the oxen, and all the timber instruments of

threshing, to David, for 50 shekels of silver, about £.8 sterling; but it being for the public good, it is presumed the King was rather undercharged. The corn was sometimes trampled out by the oxen, or by horses, and sometimes by their turning a loaded wheel-carriage on the corn. The law of Moses prohibited the muzzling of the ox when engaged in this work, Deut. xxv. 4.; and by Isaiah and Virgil it is established, that horses were employed in the same service: " Fitches," says the prophet, xxviii. 27. " are not threshed with a threshing instrument, neither is a cart-wheel turned about upon the cumin; but fitches are beaten out with the flail, and cumin with a rod: Bread corn is bruised, because he will not be ever threshing it, nor break it with the wheel of his cart, nor bruise it with his horsemen."—" Often," says the poet, Geor. iii. line 132. " they shake the horses with running, and fatigued them in the sun, when the floor groans heavily by the threshing of the grain, and the empty ears are tossed in the rising zephir." The rainy climate of these northern regions prohibits this operation in the open air, though hay is generally threshed in the field.

The flail in England is considerably different from that instrument as used in Moray. The English flail is of less weight; the staff is not turned about in the hand; but the swingle is so connected by a swivel as to move round by itself, which is no doubt an improvement of this simple instrument.

We are, it has been said, indebted to England for the general knowledge, and for many particular improvements in agriculture; repayments from Scotland of late are begun to be made. The improvement of the harrow that has been mentioned, the mathematical principles applied to the construction of the plough, and the whole invention of the threshing machine, solely appertain to Scotland.

The history of this machine is so generally known, that it is only necessary to notice farther here, that though beginning but yet to be used in England, almost all the extensive corn-farms, particularly in the eastern quarter of this province, are provided with these machines: they are turned by 2 or by 4 horses, or by the power of water; and they cost from £.40 to about £.60. It is probable they will be constructed in a more simple form, and of course become lower in price.

A few

A few have been constructed on a small scale, to be turned by one man; but their use and power have not yet been satisfactorily ascertained: one particular is established, that if they are not turned with steady velocity, the corn is not completely expelled from the straw; in this regard, it might perhaps be found an improvement in these small machines, to add a fly and weight, similar to what is employed in a common kitchen-jack.

Crops of oats, barley, potatoe, turnip, cultivated clovers, and rye grass; and small quantities of flax, are raised over the whole province: although, among the poorer tenants in the Highland parishes, the crops are restricted to oats, barley, and potatoe only, with a small extent occasionally of flax and rye. In the lower part of the province the proportion of potatoe is rather less, and the variety of the crops is increased by the addition of wheat, pease, and beans, which the wet climate of the Highlands in a great degree prohibits; although if wheat were sown in the beginning of September, it would certainly be found a very profitable extension of the business of agriculture, and would no doubt be so far advanced by August as not to suffer by the frosty mildew, which, in several parts of that country at that season, blasts the barley and the oats. Pease and beans are rendered so precarious a crop by the same vapour, and by the frequency of the autumnal rains, that they can never be generally and regularly cultivated in that quarter. In the low country it begins to be an established maxim, that it is impracticable to maintain cattle through the winter without turnip: in the higher district, the shelter among the natural woods, and on the sloping banks of winding brooks, continues the after-grass so far through the winter, that turnip, though raised also on many farms there, may be somewhat more easily spared. On the bare unsheltered plains of the champaign of Moray, the fields afford no sustenance for cattle from the end of October to the first of May; and where turnip are not provided, dry fodder is their sole support.

The same kinds of crop are cultivated, nearly in the same manner over the whole province; oats and barley may be reckoned the staple or indispensable produce. Over a great part of the province, nearly the half of each farm, or  $\frac{4}{10}$ ths, may be sown with oats; about  $\frac{1}{10}$ th with barley;  $\frac{2}{10}$ ths in pease, turnip, and potatoe; and the remaining  $\frac{3}{10}$ ths in sown grass. In the low part of the country, about  $\frac{3}{10}$ ths only may be supposed in oats;

1-10th in wheat; 1-10th in barley; 3-10ths in sown grass; and 2-10ths in turnip, pease, beans, and potatoe.

But as there never was any fixed or steady rotation, since the ancient general system of bear and oats only has been abandoned, and as it is well established, that the variableness of the climate, conjoined to the different kinds of soil of which every farm consists, will for ever derange any system that may be proposed; these proportions are stated to give an idea of the general course of management on the larger farms, but not any accurate account of the particular circumstances.

Oats are sown after wheat, barley, pease, and grass, from about the first of March to near the end of April, and in general after one plowing in winter or spring, at the rate of 4-5ths of an English quarter to the acre; which, at an average, returns about 4 quarters, or but little more, each of which yields about 9 stone of meal, avoirdupois or English weight. In the higher parts of the country, where the climate is severe, the soil wet, and the harvests late, a proportion of the small black hairy oat is still cultivated; it is not equal to half the value of the white species, and, with a little more skill in the management of the soil, it might be wholly given up.

For barley, the land is reduced by three repeated plowings to a state of high cultivation; manure is also applied, save where this grain succeeds to a green crop, turnip, potatoe, or hoed beans, that had been manured; the quantity of seed about 4 bushels the acre; is sown in the month of May; the medium return about 5 quarters. There are only two varieties of this grain cultivated: the barley, with two rows of grain in the ear; and the bear, which, in a shorter ear, has four rows; it is reckoned a hardier and an earlier grain; but it seems to be a variety in the barley produced solely by the climate and the soil; for if the purest English barley be repeatedly sown in the higher parts of the country, although kept separate with the greatest care, in a very few years it becomes pure unmixed bear. The return from the acre is found in general equal; but its weight and quality is deemed inferior to barley: though there are not wanting instances of the bear yielding more meal, or more distilled spirits, than equal measures of barley.

Wheat is in general sown upon land prepared by fallow, or by a green hoed crop, manure being always applied. The season of sowing is from the end of August to near the middle of December;

in some cases it is sown as late as February; a little more than 3 bushels is the quantity of seed allowed to the acre; the return about 5 or 6 quarters. The seed is always prepared; it is either for some time steeped in pickle made so strong as to float an egg; in some cases it is just plunged in stale urine, and the light grains floated off, as in the pickle; and sometimes the urine is only sprinkled by a besom on the heap; it is also washed in fair water, a small quantity at a time put into a little tub, and the water changed, and the light grain floated off, until the water be no longer defiled, which in general requires three changes of the water. The seed in all these cases is dried by the sprinkling or mixing it with lime just at the time of sowing. If the dung has been properly rotted, and the land sufficiently prepared, all those methods are found effectual to prevent smut.

But, with all this care, the quality of the grain will be greatly impaired if the seed be not frequently brought down from the London market. What then are we to think of the utility of that law which, upon a slight alteration happening in the price in Moray, between the time of the commission being given and the arrival of the seed upon the coast, absolutely prohibits its being taken on shore, after every thing has been anxiously prepared for its being sown?

Pease are pretty generally cultivated, but rather in small quantities, over the greater part of the province. There are only two varieties of the species cultivated beyond the gardens: the early grey kind is most generally cultivated; the small black pea is only cultivated as an ameliorating crop, in the earlier parts of the country. This grain is generally sown, after two plowings, at the same season with oats: they are occasionally interposed between a crop of wheat and one of barley: the quantity of seed about half a quarter to the acre: the return is extremely various, from a little more than the quantity sown to nearly 5 quarters from the acre.

Beans are only sown in the low part of the country: when not mixed with pease, they are generally sown in drills, and for the most part hand-hoed: in some cases, they are horse-hoed. The time of sowing, quantity of seed, and the returns, are accounted the same as that of pease.

Turnip of late are cultivated pretty generally in drills, and they have always been twice carefully hand-hoed: they are but seldom cultivated

cultivated in the horse-hoeing mode. The ground is well pulverized by three or four plowings and harrowings, and plentifully dunged in the month of June: the sowing is reckoned late, if deferred till the middle of July. They are generally consumed by cows and young cattle. Feeding for the butcher is not now attempted upon any steady plan, or to any considerable amount.

Potatoe were introduced into this country about the year 1740. At the first, like celery or asparagus, regarded only as a luxury, they were cultivated with care, in the most favoured situation of the garden: they were put under the landlady's care, with her stock of winter fruit, and served up at the tables of the opulent as a vegetable of the greatest delicacy: the servants and the poor aspired not at such dainty fare. Now they are raised in such quantities, that, though still retained at the tables of the rich, they are eaten only through necessity, not through choice, by the poor; and in many families the servants do not eat them at all. They are cultivated, however, in some proportion, upon every farm: they are but little used as the food of cattle; by a very few they are given occasionally to horses and to poultry: they are planted in the month of April, sometimes in drills 3 or 4 feet distant, and sometimes in deeply trenched ground, in irregular and close rows. Dung is seldom applied: the medium return from the acre may be 800 stone avoirdupois: the white kidney-shaped potatoe is most generally cultivated for the table; yet several varieties are raised.

The sowing of grass seed was not introduced so early as the cultivation of potatoe. In the higher part of the country, the land does not produce red clover, on many farms, until lime or marl be first applied; on this account the cultivation of grass has not been generally in such long practice as that of turnip. Among many of the poorer tenants it only occupies a quarter of the garden, and by many it is not cultivated at all; though even among this class its cultivation is spreading farther every year. There is not a great quantity of hay stacked, either for the market or private consumption. Grass seed is generally sown with the crop of barley, sometimes with oats, and rarely with wheat; it is principally consumed in pasture; a proportion, fresh cut, is consumed in the stalls: but it is not the practice to maintain either horses or cattle wholly in the stables through the summer. About 12 or 16 lb. of red clover is the quantity of seed generally allowed to the acre, besides a proportion

portion of rye grass and white clover, all carefully mixed and sown together. White clover is seldom sown alone, but sometimes for pasture, with a proportion of rib grass and rye grass.

On the farms which are considered as of proper extent, the plough is managed by a pair of horses, or a yoke of oxen, conducted only by the ploughman; even in the smaller farms of the low country, this mode is almost universal: in the higher parts of the country, for the same extent of land, 4, 6, or 8 oxen, conducted by a ploughman and driver, are required: in several cases, a pair of horses are conjoined with one or two yokes of oxen. The comparative value of cattle, from contingent and unknown causes, varies so frequently, that it is only necessary to observe, that it extends over the whole scale, nearly from the highest priced draught cattle in the kingdom to the lowest: a yoke of oxen bring from 50 to 60 guineas, many above 40, and they fall as low as L.12 or L.20; pairs of horses rise to about the same value; cows bring from L.5 to L.12 each. When the breed of black cattle began to be attended to in this country, a coarse Dutch breed was first introduced: they were more weighty than the native breed, but less handsome, and more difficult to maintain and feed. They gradually disappeared; and the Lancashire breed became for some time the greatest favourite. They have also been for some time given up, being accounted less handsome and more delicate than the true Scots breed, which is now only raised. Very handsome bulls of this kind have been introduced from the isle of Sky and the western Highlands.

In the low part of the country there are now but few sheep: except on a few farms, this species of stock is abandoned to the poor people who reside in the skirts or among the hills; they are generally of the small white-faced breed. The wool is fine; but the animal is so scantily fed, and so poorly treated, that neither the wool or mutton is of much importance.

In the higher parts of the province, sheep are of more consideration: the breed is generally of the black-faced species; and in common they sell for about 12s. or 14s. each. They are for the most part shut up in the house every night, and are never smeared. On the sheep farms in the parish of Laggan, the treatment of this stock is the same as on the sheep-farms in the south-west of Scotland.

Leases are generally granted for 19 years. The possession of the houses, garden, and any natural pasture, commences at the term of Whitsunday, on the 26th of May; and to the arable land, after reaping the crop which is then laid down. On some estates the rents are paid wholly in cash; but more generally, partly in money, and partly in grain.

The ancient condition of the farm-houses has been already mentioned. At present, on every farm of considerable extent, the buildings are sufficiently commodious and neat, of substantial masonry, stone and lime, and for the most part slated, two stories in height, and completely finished within, and furnished nearly in the same style as the houses of the proprietors. The farm-offices are built in the same substantial manner, very sufficiently thatched with a thick neat cover of straw, generally disposed in a handsome square, judiciously connected with the mansion-house. They are built at the expence of the tenant, who is allowed a proportion of the cost at his removal.

The dwellings of the mechanics and labourers begin to assume the same neat and substantial form. A turf cottage, without windows, is scarcely to be seen in the low country: but on the western side of the river Findern, and in the Highland parishes, the lodgings of the poorer tenants and labourers cannot have received much improvement since the first peopling of the country; they are mean squalid dark hovels, reared with Moorish turf, and often imperfectly thatched, sometimes with nothing else but sods. In many cases the proprietors of the land afford the great timbers for the couples and rafters, which the tenant re-delivers at his removal of equal value. Whether from the remains of Roman Catholic ideas, or from some frugality in the building, or some accommodation in the internal arrangement, these black mansions are generally in the form of a cross, having the transverse extended sometimes over the door, and sometimes across the western end.

It only remains to close this undertaking by a brief survey of the principal roads connected with the province, and suggest a few hints for its improvement.

The post road, directed eastward, in a pretty direct course from Inverness to Spey, nearly parallel to the Frith, may be regarded as the basis of all the other roads, and naturally presents itself first for consideration. By this course, in which post-chaises and horses

may

may be more certainly procured than upon any other, the distance from Inverness to Edinburgh is in whole 236 miles; the stages of which are in miles and furlongs.

|                                           |   | M.         | F.      |
|-------------------------------------------|---|------------|---------|
| 1. From Inverness to Nairn,               | — | 15         | 2       |
| 2. From Nairn to Forres,                  | — | 10         | 5       |
| 3. —— to Elgin,                           | — | 11         | 5       |
| 4. —— to Fochabers and Spey,              | — | 8          | 6—46 7  |
| 5. —— to Cullen,                          | — | 12         | 0       |
| 6. —— to Banff,                           | — | 12         | 3       |
| 7. —— to Turriff,                         | — | 9          | 7       |
| 8. —— to Oldmeldrum,                      | — | 16         | 5       |
| 9. —— to Aberdeen,                        | — | 17         | 0—114 6 |
| 10. —— to Stonehaven,                     | — | 14         | 4       |
| 11. —— to Laurencekirk,                   | — | 13         | 7       |
| 12. —— to Brechin,                        | — | 11         | 1       |
| 13. —— to Forfar,                         | — | 11         | 6       |
| 14. —— to Coupar of Angus,                | — | 17         | 2       |
| 15. —— to Perth,                          | — | 12         | 6—196 0 |
| 16. —— to Kinross,                        | — | 15         | 4       |
| 17. —— to North Queensferry,              | — | 14         | 7       |
| Sail across the Frith of Forth, 1 m. 2 f. |   |            |         |
| 18. —— to Edinburgh,                      | — | 9          | 5       |
|                                           |   | <u>236</u> | 0       |

The first branch from this road may be represented as springing off from its root at Inverness; it stretches up Lochness upon either side to Fort Augustus: the southern side only, being passable for wheel-carriages, is to be noticed here.

|                                                                                        | M.        | F. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----|
| 1. The first stage from Inverness to the General's Hut,<br>near the fall of Foyers, is | 17        | 6  |
| 2. And to Fort Augustus,                                                               | 14        | 2  |
|                                                                                        | <u>32</u> | 0  |

Where it is parted into three diverging courses: one, bending southerly over the mountain of Corryarioch to Edinburgh, makes the distance from Inverness to that capital 161 miles and 6 furlongs.

|                                                    |   | M.  | F. |
|----------------------------------------------------|---|-----|----|
| The remaining stages continued from Fort Augustus, |   |     |    |
| distant, as above, from Inverness; —               | — | 32  | 0  |
| Stage 3. From Fort Augustus to Garvamore,          | — | 18  | 0  |
| 4. —————— to Dalwheenie,                           | — | 13  | 4  |
| 5. —————— to Dalnacardoch,                         | — | 13  | 1  |
| 6. —————— to Blair of Athol,                       | — | 10  | 3  |
| 7. —————— to Dunkeld, or Inver Inn, —              | — | 20  | 1  |
| 8. —————— to Perth, —                              | — | 14  | 5  |
|                                                    |   | 126 | 6  |
| From Perth to Edinburgh, as above, —               | — | 40  | 0  |
|                                                    |   | 161 | 6  |

The middle course lies westward to Fort William, continuing nearly in the original direction from Inverness. The distance from Fort Augustus is 29 miles, accommodated with an inn at Leitter Findlay, at the distance of 14 miles from Fort Augustus.

The third course bends nearly opposite to the first, in a northerly direction, from Fort Augustus to the isle of Sky, terminating at the Barracks of Bernera, the ferry to that island. The road is first conducted up the river of Morriston, and afterwards down the valley of Glenelg.

|                                 |   | M. | F. |
|---------------------------------|---|----|----|
| 1. From Fort Augustus to Unach, | — | 9  | 0  |
| 2. —————— to Raatachan,         | — | 25 | 5  |
| 3. —————— to Bernera,           | — | 9  | 0  |
|                                 |   | 43 | 5  |

The second branch from the great post road springs also from Inverness, making the distance to Edinburgh in all 155 miles. The stages are,

|                                  |   | M.            | F.   |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------|------|
| 1. From Inverness to Dalmagerie, | — | 12            | 5    |
| 2. —————— to Alviemore,          | — | 17            | 5    |
| 3. —————— to Pitmain,            | — | 13            | 1    |
| 4. —————— to Dalwheenie,         | — | 13            | 4    |
|                                  |   | Carried over, | 56 7 |

|                                     | M.         | F.    |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------|
| Brought over,                       | 56         | 7     |
| From Dalwheenie to Perth, as above, | —          | 58    |
| And from Perth to Edinburgh,        | —          | 40. 0 |
|                                     | <u>155</u> | 0     |

The third branch from the post road turns off at the distance of 10 miles eastward from Inverness, where it meets the military road, at the distance of 5 miles from Fort George. The distance by this route to Edinburgh is 167 miles.

|                                                                                           | M.         | F.   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|
| The first stage is to the river Findern, at the Bridge of Dulsie, distant from Inverness, | —          | 20 0 |
| (But it is only 16 miles from Fort George.)                                               |            |      |
| 2. From Dulsie bridge to Grantown,                                                        | —          | 18 5 |
| 3. ————— to Tomantoul,                                                                    | —          | 13 0 |
| 4. ————— to Curgarph,                                                                     | —          | 9 0  |
| 5. ————— to Braemar,                                                                      | —          | 20 6 |
| 6. ————— to Glenshee,                                                                     | —          | 14 6 |
| 7. ————— to Blair Gaurie,                                                                 | —          | 18 5 |
| 8. By Coupar of Angus to Perth,                                                           | —          | 17 1 |
|                                                                                           | <u>126</u> | 7    |
| From Perth to Edinburgh, above,                                                           | —          | 40 0 |
|                                                                                           | <u>166</u> | 7    |

There is also a new road lately formed from Dulsie-bridge, reaching directly to Aviemore, by one stage of the length of 18 miles. This is also, from Forres through Badenaugh to Edinburgh, the most direct road, the first stage being 9 miles; besides which, the road from Forres to Edinburgh by Glenshee is through Grantown, at the distance of 22 miles, by the route of Edinkiellie.

A fourth branch sets off from the great road at Fochabers, conducted up the river Spey. The first stage, from Fochabers to Rothes, is 9 miles, where it also is joined by a road from Elgin, through the glen of Rothes, of the same length: the second stage, from Rothes to Aberlaur, is 7 miles; and the third, from Aberlaur to Grantown, is 12 miles; from whence the route may be continued either by Aviemore, or Tomantoul, as above: besides which, a road of the length of 12 miles is conducted from Aberlaur, through Glenrinnes and Glenlivat, directly to Tomantoul.

A fifth branch sets off also from Fochabers to Edinburgh, reaching that capital by a route of 158 miles 6 furlongs, by which the distance from Inverness to Edinburgh is 205 miles 5 furlongs.

|                                                    |       | M.  | F. |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|----|
| 1. From Fochabers to Keith is                      | — — — | 8   | 3  |
| 2. —————— to Huntly                                | — — — | 10  | 1  |
| 3. —————— to Boat of Alford on the river Don       | — — — | 16  | 4  |
| 4. —————— to Kincardine O'Niel                     | — — — | 11  | 7  |
| 5. —————— to Cuttie's Hillock                      | — — — | 7   | 0  |
| 6. —————— Across the Grampian hills to Fettercairn | — — — | 12  | 1  |
| 8. —————— to Brechin                               | — — — | 10  | 3  |
|                                                    |       | 76  | 3  |
| From Brechin to Edinburgh, as by the great road    | — — — | 81  | 6  |
|                                                    |       | 158 | 9  |

|                                                           | M. | F.        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----|-----------|
| 1. From Huntly to Aberdeen, the first stage to Oldrain is | —  | 12 1      |
| 2. From Oldrain to Inverury                               | —  | 8 5       |
| 3. To Aberdeen by Kintore                                 | —  | 15 4—36 2 |

The sixth branch, which is the course of the post, leaves the great road at Stonehaven, keeping nearer to the shore.

|                                       | M. | F.   |
|---------------------------------------|----|------|
| 10. From Stonehaven to Inverbervie is | —  | 9 2  |
| 11. —————— to Montrose                | —  | 12 6 |
| 12. —————— to Arbroath                | —  | 12 0 |
| 13. —————— to Dundee                  | —  | 17 0 |
|                                       | 51 | 0    |

From Dundee, at the distance of 133 miles 3 furlongs from Inverness, the post proceeds through the Carse of Gowrie to Perth, by Rait Inn, 12 miles 1 furlong, and from Rait to Perth, 10 miles 5 furlongs; but the direct route to Edinburgh crosses the Frith at Dundee.

|                                     | M. | F.        |
|-------------------------------------|----|-----------|
| 14. From Dundee to Cupar of Fife is | —  | 9 0       |
| 15. —————— to New Inn               | —  | 8 5       |
| 16. —————— to Kinghorn              | —  | 12 2—29 7 |

By

By this route, the distance from Inverness to Edinburgh, with the Friths of Dundee and Kinghorn, is in all about 172 miles; and it is the shortest road from Spey: yet the expence and delay of crossing the ferries is more than a counterbalance for this advantage, and experience hath shewn, that the roads by the Queens-ferry are generally more eligible. The shortest road from Inverness to Edinburgh, through Badenaugh, is also greatly superior to any of the others, in the complete repair in which it is always kept, in the satisfactory accommodation of almost every necessary bridge, and in the ingenuity and care with which the acclivities are in general avoided. The snow however in winter is often so embarrassing, that it is but little frequented during that season: the inns of course are then but poorly provided: the shivering traveller is received in a room comfortless and cold, and most of the articles in the bill are charged one-third higher, on the pretence of the distant land-carriage, than in the taverns along the coast. The other roads are not always in so good repair, as with little care and skill might be attained, and little or no ingenuity has been exerted in avoiding the acclivities.

The shortest road from Elgin might be directed through the Manach hill to Knockando, thence through Inveravon to Tomans-toul, and continued for 10 miles farther, by Inchrory, Lochbuilg, and Glengairn, to Breamar, and thence by the third branch to Edinburgh: by this route one whole day's journey would be saved. A bridge might be built on the Spey at the rock of Tomdow for about L.1000 sterling, and a much more direct communication opened into an extensive quarter of the highlands of Moray and Banff, at present accessible from the low country by a very circuitous route.

It may be also proper to notice the continuation of the post road from Inverness to the extremity of the island at the ferry of Houna, where the Pentland Frith is crossed to the Orkney Islands.

M. F.

|                                                                                                |    |   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 1. The first stage from Inverness is along the Moray Frith,<br>to its head at Beaulie, — — — — | 10 | 1 |
| 2. From Beaulie to Dingwall, — — — —                                                           | 9  | 1 |
| 3. ————— to Invergordon, — — — —                                                               | 14 | 0 |
| 4. ————— to Tain, — — — —                                                                      | 11 | 5 |

Carried over, 44 7

|                          |   | Brought over, | M.  | R. |
|--------------------------|---|---------------|-----|----|
| 5. From Tain to Dornoch, | — | —             | 44  | 7  |
| 6. ————— to Golspye,     | — | —             | 9   | 4  |
| 7. ————— to Helmsdale,   | — | —             | 7   | 6  |
| 8. ————— to Dunbeath,    | — | —             | 17  | 1  |
| 9. ————— to Wick,        | — | —             | 14  | 4  |
| 10. ————— to Houna,      | — | —             | 20  | 6  |
|                          |   | —             | 16  | 7  |
|                          |   | —             | 130 | 3  |

At Dunbeath a branch sets off from the road westerly through the causeway mire to Thurso, the distance in whole being 22 miles, the breadth of the island. The first stage, from Dunbeath to Auchavainich, is 9 miles; from thence to Thurso, 13.

It ought to be also observed, that, by crossing the Moray Frith at the ferry of Kessock at Inverness, and the Frith of Cromarty at that town, the distance from Inverness to Tain is lessened 14 miles; and by crossing the Moray Frith at Fort George, the distance from Nairn to Tain by Cromarty is 30 miles shorter, than by coasting round the Friths by Beaulie and Dingwall.

The post only crosses the Pentland Frith once in the week: the navigation from Houna to Burwick in the island of

|                                                                                                              |   |   |   |    |   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|----|---|
| South Ronaldsha is                                                                                           | — | — | — | 12 | 0 |
| Across that island, and a sound, to the island of Burray,                                                    | — | — | — | 9  | 0 |
| From Carray in Burray to Hamsound in Pomona,                                                                 | — | — | — | 6  | 0 |
| From Hamsound to the burgh of Kirkwall, where the last ramification of the post may be said to terminate, is | — | — | — | 8  | 0 |
|                                                                                                              |   | — | — | 35 | 0 |

The whole distance from Edinburgh to Kirkwall is 320, and from Inverness to Kirkwall it is 165.

Upon a general survey of the state of the roads, one circumstance forces itself into consideration—that it is the post road only which is destitute of bridges on all the larger and unfordable rivers in the province, the Spey, Findern, and Nairn, and on all the rivers northward from Inverness to Houna.

Another circumstance also naturally obtrudes itself upon the mind of the traveller; namely, the very considerable revenue exacted from him by the different proprietors of the respective ferries, above

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what is requisite for the support and navigation of the boats. Lord Seaforth, for example, draws a free rent of L.200 sterling yearly, from the pockets of the passengers at the ferry of Fort George, the patmen being themselves bound, besides this payment, to provide and uphold the boat with all its necessary tackle; yet few are satisfied with the provision made either for their accommodation or their safety in the passage of the ferries. The easiest mode of redressing this grievance would be to apply the money granted yearly by the Government for the roads in Scotland, to the sole purpose of building bridges, where requisite, upon the post-road from Fochabers to Inverness. By this means only, in the course of comparatively but few years, bridges might be built on Spey, Findern, Beaulie, and Conan: the road may be conducted from Dingwall to the head of the Firth of Dornoch, and a bridge built over the river Shin, and a certain road formed, without the intervention of a ferry, from one end of the British empire to the other. Much speculation has of late been entertained about the building of a bridge on the Spey at Fochabers. It is not necessary to enumerate the advantages which would result to the country from the accomplishment of this object. The sentiments of the people respecting it are fully ascertained by a subscription having been in a very short time filled up, to the extent of L.3000 sterling, by the inhabitants in its vicinity: the estimate, however, amounted to about L.13,000. If the sum, however, which has been subscribed, were recovered, and the government allowance for roads for one year obtained, and were his Grace the Duke of Gordon to erect a village along the highway across the moor of Meftodlach, annexing 20 or 30 acres thereto to each house, with a growing rent from 1s. to 10s. the acre, upon leases of 50 or 70 years, and establishing the present fares as a toll, it could be shewn, that an annual sum might be raised equal to the present rent of the ferry, the rent also presently drawn from the moor, which can scarcely be improved without the bridge, and the interest of the capital farther requisite for the work, and a sinking fund also, whereby, in not a long term of years, it would be wholly discharged. It is unnecessary, perhaps improper, to form minute calculations here; but it may be observed, that the expence might be considerably lowered, by the application for a few years of the road money annually contributed by the landholders of the counties of Moray and Banff, and by the

statute labour of the people, in the carriage of the stone which the one, and the lime which the other of these counties offer.

The estimate for a bridge at Boat of Brigg amounts only to the sum of L.3000: and if the road should be conducted from Fochabers along the bank of the river to that place, and led back again by Blackhills into the highway at Elgin, the distance would be only lengthened about 6 miles upon the whole, without greatly altering the course of the post, and independent of the formation of a new road from Portsoy, by the most direct route through the interior of the country to this bridge.

Besides these, many other particulars have been spoken of, essential for the general improvement of the country; a few selected from them it may be proper yet to mention.

Although inclosed fields must be of great advantage in any state of agriculture, yet in the ancient practice the benefits of this improvement were not perceived; and, excepting the inclosures about the seats of the proprietors, the whole country may be still regarded as altogether open: yet the tenants are now sensible of the advantages of inclosing. Over a great proportion of the country, the cattle are as particularly tended during the winter as they are in summer; and the wages of the boys employed in this service are equal to that of the female servants. Several years ago, earthen dykes were tried by some tenants, and considerable sums were expended on this kind of fence: but they were found to be wholly inefficient against black cattle and sheep, and they have been pretty generally abandoned. It is therefore not owing to the tenants that every farm is not inclosed either by stone walls, where that material can be procured, or by hedges: it is however unnecessary to state the terms here, between the landlord and tenant, upon which this object might be accomplished. Although a great proportion of the moors and uncultivated ground over the country may be covered with thriving plantations, yet their situation is for the most part distant from the corn lands; the country still appears naked, and the fields are quite unsheltered. There are irregular patches of uncultivated ground, either skirting or interspersed among the fields of each farm, of no value to the proprietor, and of very little to the tenant. When the want of natural wood, once so abundant in every part of Scotland, first began to be felt, the laws in force, which were made for its preservation, though

proper

uper perhaps when originally devised, are now impolitic and oppressive: by one of them, the whole growing timber, including plants in the nursery, are without exception the property of the landlord. Were they to be strictly executed, the tenant of every nursery would be yearly subjected to the punishment of a fine. And by the effect of these laws the tenant is prohibited from planting such unproductive ground, and which must be there transmitted from generation to generation with increasing sterility. The tenant might without inconvenience rear a few trees for his own account in such situations: but he would be immured by any intervention of the landlord. On a lease even for 19 years he would find it a profitable extension of his business, were he only allowed to carry off such as the landlord or succeeding tenant, ascertaining the value above a certain size by appraisement, did not choose to buy: the succeeding tenant could afford to give a proportional rise of rent for the accommodation of timber from such plantations, besides at the same time becoming bound by every tree he felled to plant another. It would be also an easy matter to make it the interest of the tenant, without expence to the proprietor, to raise fruit trees, apples, pears, plumbs, and cherries, both in the garden and in the fences of the fields.

A very great decrease in the value of money has rapidly taken place in the course of the passing generation: to the farmer this is proportional, upon the value he receives for corn and the expence he must lay out for labour. One circumstance merits notice, that while government have exerted their utmost endeavours to keep the price of corn low, they have given no attention to theorbitant expence of labour. About 40 years ago, the average price of a boll of grain was 12s. and the yearly wages of a ploughman about L.2: at present, though less industrious and more expensively maintained, his wages have risen about 300 per cent. and the value of grain not quite 30. While some amuse themselves in suggesting hints to the legislature respecting this circumstance, the others more generally entertain the speculation of becoming mostly idlers: this would no doubt raise the price of corn on the one hand, and, on the other, lessen the quantity of labour required for production. The proprietors might make provision against the increase of this evil, by entering into concert with the tenants for accommodating a few families of labourers or artizans upon each farm,

whatever its extent may be. Were a house erected, and ground for a small garden, and the maintenance of a cow during the summer, only allotted, it is certain there would be plenty found of such settlers; and, by the number of labourers, the price of labour would in a short time be reduced to the level with that of other articles: at present it costs the farmer higher than—if such accommodation were given without rent. In general, however, it would be found expedient that such accommodation was held of the landlord rather than from the tenant.

Besides the excess in the expence of farm servants, another evil almost universally complained of, is their insolence, idleness, and wastefulness. This it has been proposed to redress by a law, obliging every farm servant to produce to the master with whom he engages, and to the church session of the parish when required, a certificate from the master whom he last served, granted before two legal witnesses, of the wages he received, and of the discretion, fidelity, and diligence, which he maintained during the period of his preceding service; the engaging master to forfeit equal to a quarter of the year's wages, and the servant as much, to the parish fund, for every omission of such formality: to be recovered at the instance of the cashier in Scotland, and of the churchwardens in England, by the warrant of one justice of the peace, or other judge ordinary, in the same summary manner in which the penalties are levied for a deficiency of the statute labour on the roads. It does not appear that such a law could be attended with much inconvenience to either party; and while it would in general prevent imposition on the engaging master, by an exaggerated account of the wages paid by the dismissing master, it would in most cases have the effect of making the servant discreet, careful, and diligent during the term of his service, when so much as a quarter of his wages depended upon his behaviour: it would also in a great measure prevent the improper tampering of neighbouring farmers with each other's servants.

The landholders may not at present perceive how much they are concerned in procuring the establishment of some police for arresting the growing dissipation and profligacy of this class of society, and introducing less licentious habits among them; but from the recent alterations in the sentiments of society, it is also greatly wanted.

Numbers have, in the course of the last 50 years, speculated deeply in the corn trade; and considerable fortunes, by a kind of imposition on the farmers, have been rapidly accumulated; and a greater proportion of the corn merchants have failed than of any other profession. Although the landholders do not now receive so much of their rents in grain as formerly, it is no doubt as much as ever for their interest to contribute their influence in the establishment and support of a fair and steady corn market; were they heartily disposed to attend to this object, it would not be difficult to form arrangements by which the corn of this country could be brought to as regular and certain a sale as at Haddington, or any other market in Scotland.

The application of water as a manure, both for grounds to be continued in grass, and when first to be converted from grass to corn, where water can be so applied, would certainly be found of the greatest consequence: but the use of water as a manure is wholly unknown, and unpractised by every class of farmers over the whole country.

It would be also greatly for the interest of many of the proprietors, to retain one or more labourers merely for the purpose of spreading the rills of water, where practicable, over the sides of healthy mountains. By this simple means, a vast extent of unproductive territory would in the course of a few years be converted into a verdant and valuable pasture and grazing.

Raising of corn and cattle are no doubt the important and only lucrative objects in agriculture. Experience has not warranted farmers bestowing much attention upon raising flax, or other crops not commonly produced; but flax is raised here to much less advantage, by the want of a mill for extracting the oil from the seed. Were there also a manufacture of mustard seed, similar to that of Durham, established in the country, there is no doubt but it would be raised in considerable quantities, and to much advantage. In the same view it may be also proper to mention a mill for extracting the oil from rape seed, which could be profitably raised upon the fallows, and taken off in proper time for sowing wheat: it would contribute also to the maintenance of cattle, and to the augmentation of the dunghill.

Swine is the only animal not reared by the farmer, which might be worth his attention. The rearing of this animal is of considerable

able importance to the community at large. In no instance has nature shewn her œconomy more, than in this species, whose stomachs are a receptacle for almost every thing which other creatures refuse, and which in this country is entirely wasted. Where the offal of the garden and farm is insufficient for their aliment, the deficiency may be made up by potatoe in winter, and by red clover in summer. At the end of one year, besides the number of pigs which may be had, the value of a swine in general is equal to that of a calf of the same age; and, if properly accommodated, they require less care and less expence.

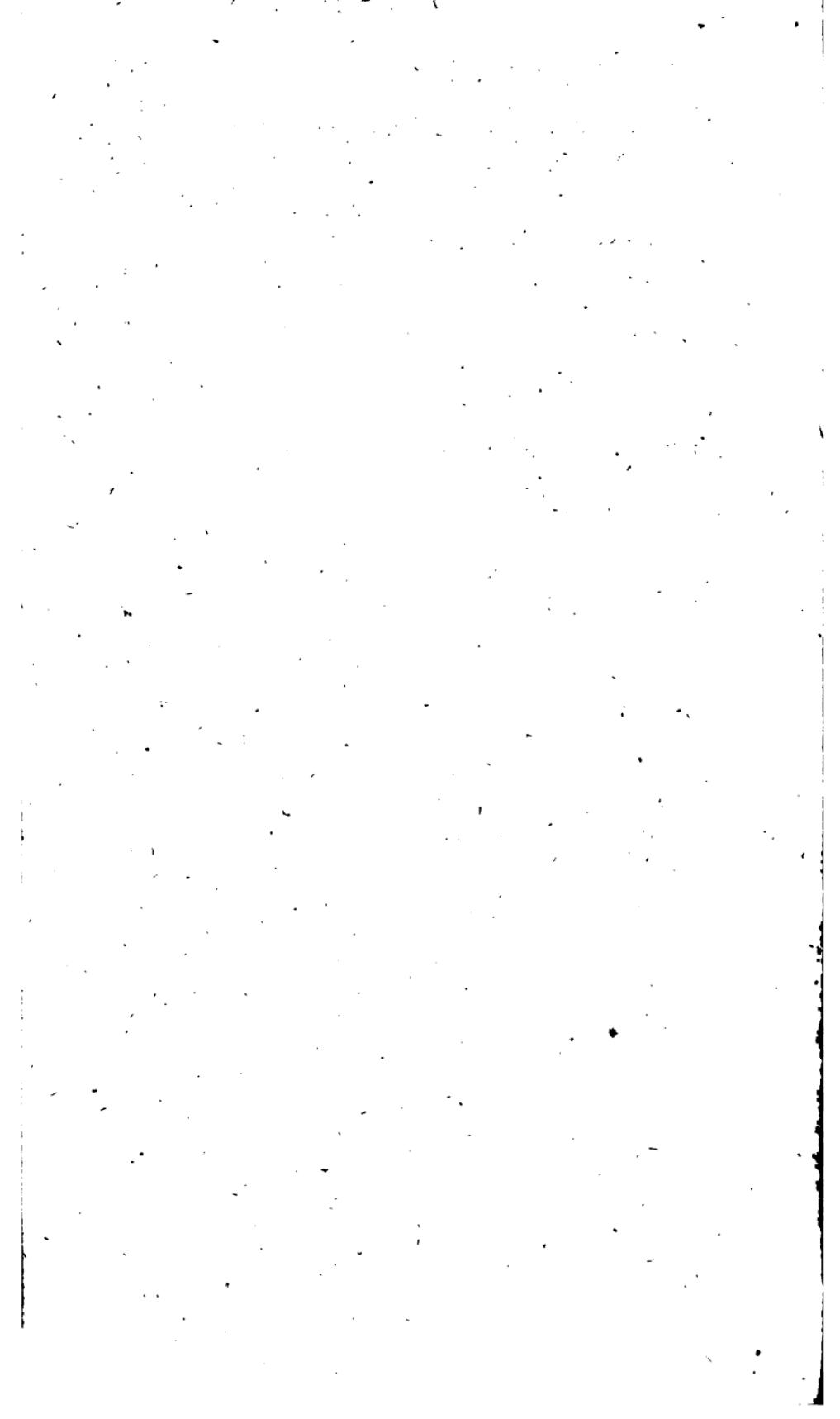
Although many bee-masters appear enthusiastic in recommending this kind of stock, yet it is apprehended the attention which they require cannot be easily spared by the industrious farmer; but bees might be a very profitable article to the generality of labourers, and to all the country mechanics and artizans.

Since the price of labour has become so exorbitant, it may not be proper to attempt the establishment of any manufacture but such as may be carried on mostly by women. Although a tan-work be of little consequence to the farmer, it might however be for the advantage of the country, that the hides which itself produces were manufactured at home. There was lately a tan-work to a considerable extent at Elgin, which the partners in a few years found it convenient to abandon, chiefly on account of the troublesome mode of levying the duties of excise. A soap-work was also given up by another company, mostly on the same consideration.

It might perhaps be found for the advantage of the revenue, that in such cases, where the attendance of the officer of excise is almost continually requisite, and the frequent interposition of oaths required, that the duties were laid on rather by licence, and levied quarterly, or at such other terms as might be deemed expedient.

In some places, under a thin layer of light soil, the sole is sand, but so firmly concreted as to bear the resemblance of stone, generally of a dark brown colour. In the provincial dialect, this is termed *Moray coft*, and it is in pretty extensive tracts over much of the low country: in some cases, it has imbedded pebbles similar to the pudding stone: it is supposed to have been indurated by water charged with iron ore, or some other mineral. Although not always able to resist the share, it is generally avoided in ploughing, because supposed adverse to vegetation: but as it generally crumbles

bles down when exposed for some time to the weather, James Coull Esq. doctor of physic, was led to suppose that it contained no iron, and having brought several pieces from different parts of the country to the test of a chymical analysis, he found this without exception to be the case; and upon turning it up with the plough in the rainy season of winter, upon his own property of Ashgrove, in the vicinity of Elgin, he found that, by adding to the depth, it tended to improve the soil; and wherever the ground is dry, it is probable, that mingling it with the soil will always have the same beneficial consequences.



## CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS.

The Editor's residence being distant from the Press, a few Typographical Errors have been almost unavoidable.— They are here enumerated and corrected.

PAGE 1, line 10, for *original* read *accidental*.

P. 4, l. 3, for *rational* read *national*.

P. 4, l. 26, for *Hindees* read *Hindus*.

P. 4, l. 30, for *Hindees* read *Hindus*.

P. 4, after line 32 add:—This might be proved by analytical investigation, in as convincing a manner as historical facts of so high antiquity are capable of receiving, was this the proper place. Suffice it to mention, that the *Hindus*, *Greeks*, *Tuscan*, *Scythians*, or *Goths*, *Celts*, *Chinese*, and *Japanese*, proceeded from one central country, *Iran* at large. There is great affinity between the primeval languages of *Asia* and those spoken in *Europe*, particularly in the British isles. The language of the first *Persian* empire was the mother of the *Sanscrit*, as well as of the *Gothic*, *Greek*, and *Latin*. Pliny observed, that the *British* religious ceremonies were similar to those of *Persia*. Strabo mentions, that the *Samothracian* institutions were practised in Britain.

It is more than probable that the *Druuids* of this island were the immediate descendants of a tribe of *Bramins* who emigrated from *Tibet* into *Tartary*, and there uniting with the *Celto-Scythians*, introduced the *Bramin* religion, which, mingling with the tenets of the *Celto-Scythians*, spread over *Europe*.

The *Bramanic* original of the *Druuids* appears from their doctrine of transmigration; their knowledge of astronomy; their abstinence from certain kinds of food, as unclean, and belief of the destruction of the world by fire, &c. The *Druid circles* were solar temples, of which *Stonehenge* was the most distinguished. These *circles* were also employed for public deliberation, and the distribution of justice. In *Norway* and *Iceland* they are named

DOM THING, TING, or *judicial circles*. They were used for these different purposes, as the ancients always opened their meetings for civil affairs with acts of religion. From this eastern source we are to derive those hieroglyphical representations of serpents, elephants, and other figures, on the obelisks in *Angus-shire*. Similar figures are carved on obelisks in *Japan*.

P. 5, l. 30, add:—This emigration of *Phænicians* and *Iberians* from *Spain* probably happened when the *Chaldeans* under *Nebuchadnezzar* conquered part of *Africa* and *Spain*, about the year 571 before Christ. The irruption of the *Chaldeans* is mentioned by *Strabo*, who names their king *Nauocodroforum*. It is also related by *Josephus*. There is the more probability in this *expedition*, as it happened after the *Chaldeans* had taken *Tyre*, and subdued *Egypt*, who at that period carried on an extensive commerce with *Spain* and *Africa*, and had founded *Leptis*, *Utica*, *Carthage*, *Gades*, and other cities. *Pliny* gives an account from *Varro*, that *Perians*, *Phænicians*, *Iberians*, and *Celts*, had settled in *Spain*.

P. 5, l. 39, add:—The *Irish* call one of their dialects *BERLA-FENE*; the *Phænician* speech.

P. 8, l. 26, for *Scoz* read *Scot*.

P. 8, l. 35, for *Tafous* read *Torfeus*.

P. 8, l. 36, for *Sigind* read *Sigurd*.

P. 9, l. 17, add:—In 1171 there was an insurrection of the inhabitants of *Moray*, so that *Malcolm*'s policy had not all the effects he expected from it.

P. 10, l. 26, for *Hughson* read *Hugh son*.

P. 12, l. 4, dele *also* after *or*.

P. 12, l. 5, after *he*, add *also*.

P. 12, l. 31, add:—In 1206 there was a dispute between *William*, *Bishop* of *St. Andrews*, and *Duncan* of *Arbuthnot*, ancestor of the present *Viscount* of *Arbuthnot*, concerning the property of the *Kirktown* of *Arbuthnot* in the *Mearns*. It was determined by a *synod* met at *Perth* that year. One of the *witnesses* declares on *oath*, that he had known *thirteen Thanes*, in his lifetime, to have the lands in question, to whom the *Bishops* paid *tribute*. From this it appears, that *Thanes* were *collectors* of the *King's revenue*, and received *perquisites* of *office*.

P. 13, l. 3, after *Lyon*, add, in the *chartulary* of *Moray*.

P. 13, l. 21, for *fine* read *time*.

P. 13, l. 27, for *Man* read *Mar*.

P. 18, l. 85, for *Hebrides* read *Hebudes*.

P. 19, s. 1, add:—This appears to be confirmed by a Dutch surname, which is promiscuously spelt *de Groat*, or *Grand*. There is a tribe of the name of *Groat* in Caithness, who assert they are *Grants*.

P. 22, l. 29, for *macers* read *Mayr*.

P. 23, l. 23, for *Macanne* read *Macane*, and dele the comma after *Macane*.

P. 25, l. 13, for *Charles* read *Francis*.

P. 25, l. 14, for *Francis* read *Charles*.

P. 27, l. 32, add:—By authentic communications it appears, that *John Oig Grant*, second son of *John Grant of Grant*, by *Margaret Ogilvie*, daughter of *Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford*, ancestor of the *Earl of Findlater*, was progenitor of the *Grants of Shewglie, Cortinony, &c.* in the lordship of *Urquhart*, and shire of *Inverness*; and obtained a charter from *King James IV.* in 1509, of the *bracs* of that country, from which he and his immediate descendant, *John*, derived their local designation. *Alexander*, only son of the latter *John*, by *Marjory*, daughter of *John Grant*, representative of *Ballindalloch*, settled in *Shewglie*. By his misconduct, and the *barbarous* policy of the times, he lost in 1609 the greatest part of his inheritance, which reverted to the family of *Grant*. From this *Alexander*, by *Lilias*, daughter of *Peter Grant of Glenmoriston*, descended in the line of primogeniture *Robert*, whose son and successor, *James*, is named a commissioner in the first act of supply, 1660. This *James* was killed in a skirmish by *thieves* in 1689; and succeeded by his only son, *Alexander*, then an infant. He married, first, *Margaret*, daughter of *John Chisholm of Comar* and *Strathglass*, and, secondly, *Isabel*, daughter of *John Grant of Glenmoriston*, by both of whom he left a numerous issue. Of the sons, fourteen in number, *James* was the eldest, and his immediate successor: most of the rest were military officers, and of these was *Hugh* above mentioned. This *James*, by his wife, *May Fraser*, daughter of *Fraser of Dunballach*, had *James*, his only son, who filled high diplomatic and financial departments in *Bengal*, and purchased *Redeastle*, as mentioned above.

Of this family of *Shewglie* is *Charles*, a descendant of *Patrick*, the younger son of *Robert*, son of the first *Alexander*. He has

filled one of the principal departments of the East India Company's service in Bengal, and now is a director; and will, it may be supposed, follow the example of the other branches of his family, and become a landed proprietor in the province of Moray.

P. 29, l. 29; after *issue*, add:—The eldest daughter, Margaret, was married to her near relation, Major Innes; of which marriage is Major General Harry Innes, said to be the heir male of the family of Innes.

P. 29, l. 29, dele *one of his daughters*, read, *the other*.

P. 30, l. 32, after *nine daughters*, dele to the end of the paragraph, and add:—Anne Brodie, married, 2d Oct. 1679, to William, Master of Forbes; Katharine, married 15th Aug. 1682 to her cousin-german, Robert Dunbar of Grangehill; Grizel, married, 19th Nov. 1685, to Robert Dunbar of Dunphail; Elizabeth, married, 16th Feb. 1686, to Alexander Comyn of Altre; Emilia, married to George Brodie of Alistik, on whom the estate was entailed as heir male; Margaret, married to James Brodie of Whitehall, brother to George of Alistik; Veronika, married to Brodie of Muireik, son of Joseph, whose grandson is Captain Brodie above mentioned; Lilius, first married to Doctor Comyn of Inverness, to whom she bore Sluy; she thereafter married as second wife to Alexander Chives of Muirtown, who had been formerly married to her cousin-german, Mary Dunbar of Grangehill; Henrietta died when about to be married.

P. 31, l. 14, add:—His next brother, Alexander, was fortunate in the East Indies; and is Member of Parliament for the district of burghs in which is Elgin. He married a daughter of Wemyss of Wemyss, and has issue. The youngest brother, George, is a Colonel in the army, and Governor of Fort Augustus.

P. 34, l. 19, add:—*Robert Dunbar of Grangehill*, descended of David of Durris, was created a knight-bachelor at the Restoration, and married Grizel, only daughter of Alexander Brodie of Brodie, a senator of the College of Justice. The fruit of this marriage was *Robert of Grangehill*, James of Cleves, and nine daughters. Katharine married, first, Charles Gordon, brother to the Laird of Gordonstown, without issue; she married next Alexander Abercromby of Glassaugh, the 22d July 1675; of this marriage was Captain Abercrombie, father of General James Abercrombie, and a daughter married to Fraser of Culduthel; she married, lastly,

James

James Ogilvie of Bandintoul, to whom she bore two daughters, that have a numerous posterity. Florence, married, 19th Nov. 1674, to Thomas Urquhart of Burdfyards; Mary was married 21st June 1679, to Alexander Chives of Muirtown, near Inverness; Jean married Alexander Fraser of Phopachy; Grizel, married, 6th May 1694, to John Maxwel of Woodside, son to the Bishop of Ross, and a daughter of this marriage was mother to Fisher the player: Anna was married to John Rose of Blackhills; her grandson is John Grant, minister of Elgin: Margaret, married to James Fraser of Castleleathers; her grandson is Captain Fraser, late in Kincorth: Emilia married, 16th Jan. 1692, John Gordon of Carbue in Keith parish; her descendants are the Beatsons at Bridge of Earn: Janet, baptized 24th April 1677, and died unmarried, when grown up.

Sir Robert Dunbar, father of this numerous family of daughters, had three brothers: *David Dunbar* of Kirkhill, *William* of Kintessack, and *John* of Wellhead. *David* married a daughter of Seton of Pitmedden, a lord of session, called Marjory, by whom he had *John*, who married his cousin Mary Urquhart, daughter of Burdfyards. The sons of this marriage were *Robert*, minister of Dyke, and *David*, minister of Olrick. *Robert* left two sons: *John*, presently minister of Dyke, and *William*, an attorney at London. *John Dunbar* has two sons, *Robert* and *William*. The Attorney has issue. *David* left no male issue.

*William Dunbar* of Kintessack bought the estate of Durn near Portsoy, and was created a knight baronet in 1698. He married *Janet Brodie*, daughter of the dean of Auldearn. Their sons were, *Sir James Dunbar* of Durn, *William* of Kincorth, and *George*, and four daughters. *William* had a son, *Dr. Dunbar* at Dunse, who has an only daughter. *George* died unmarried. The daughters were, *Anne*, Countess of Findlater and Seafield: the present Earl is her great-grandson. *Katharine* married *Samuel Tulloch* of Tanachy: *Grizel* married *James Gordon* of Letterfury, and is grand-mother to the present Letterfury: *Jean* married *Duff* of Dipple, to whom she had several daughters.

*Sir James Dunbar* married a daughter of *Baird* of Achmedden, and by her had two sons, *Sir William*, and *James* of Kincorth. *Sir William* married *Clementina*, daughter of *Sir James Grant* of Grant, and left two sons, *Sir James* and *Keith Dunbar*, who are both unmarried.

unmarried. James of Kinorth married a daughter of Sir James Abercrombie of Birkenbog: his two sons died unmarried: his daughter is married to James Duff at Banff, and has issue.

P. 42, l. 29, for 1744 read 1748.

P. 54, l. 11, add:—Captain Sand, who some years ago commanded the detachment of the royal artillery at Perth, employed himself in exploring the Roman geography from Camelon to Stonehaven, the limits of Agricola's progress. He conjectured, that the Romans had penetrated further into the country: and, on a survey, found the great camp at *Glen-maiden on Ythan*, in Buchan, perhaps the *Statio ad Itinam*; as also, the remarkable *presidium* near *Oldmeldrum*, and a number of smaller works of the same character with those on the other side of the Grampians, though not executed with such accuracy.

P. 73, l. 26, add:—In 1244, Robert Augustine gave part of his lands near Inneralien in Strathspey to the abbey. In 1255, Robert, Bishop of Ross, bestowed on it the church of Awach in Ross. Muriel, daughter of Peter Pollock, and wife of Walter Murdoch, in 1248, gave Dundurcas and Freefield out of her estate of Rothes. King Robert Bruce granted, in 1310, all the fishings on Findern, from Dunduff to the sea, as also the church of Ellon in Buchan.

P. 75, l. 26, add:—Robert Reid, abbot of Kinloss, according to Ferrerius, was born at Akynheid in Kinnedar. His father was slain at Flodden-field. His mother was Bessy Shenwall. Although employed in foreign embassies and state affairs, he repaired the buildings of the abbey: and about 1540 brought from Dieppe in France, William Lubias, a gardener, who improved the garden by planting fruit trees of the best kinds, and grafting many more; which he did also all over the low part of Moray: since then the garden of Kinloss has been distinguished for fruit, particularly apples, as has Old Duffus. This Robert Reid, when bishop of Orkney, gave to the town of Edinburgh £.450 for establishing a *schola illustris*; and they began the College of Edinburgh in 1581.

P. 75, l. 32, after *monastery*, add *Ferrerius reports*.

P. 76, after l. 38, add:—It gives partial information of the prevailing surnames in Moray, to mention those of some of the monks of this abbey. They are, De Teras, Forres, de Spine, Hunter, Tellen, Guttury, Fluture, Bouston, Rannaldson, Ellem, Bell, Baxter, Comyn, Merchand, Mar, Bone, Donaldson, Wilson, Eliot,

Butter,

Butter, Kellie, Richards, Spens, Copland, Weddel, Childe, Moray, Hethone, Person, Smythe, Browne, Maffone, Toud, Lenis, Portar, Forsyt, Lyell, Braidwood, Riddal, Burt, Elder, Baird, Lawrak, Dafon, Pop, Gilbert, Gray, Deskij, Galbreith, Haistie.

P. 132, l. 35, for *Roger* read *Royer*.

P. 133, l. last, for *Kay* read *Hay*.

P. 134, l. 17, for *have received* read *have been received*.

P. 148, l. 27, for *for L.1. 25.* read *L.2. 25.*

P. 169, l. 11, for *parting* read *purling*.

P. 194, l. 1, for *white* read *waste*.

P. 197, l. 1, for *arable field* read *an arable field*.

P. 226, l. 26, for *Farnea* read *Farnua*.

P. 229, l. 6, and elsewhere, for *Kilmorae* read *Kilmorac*.

P. 230, l. 9, for *in little than* read *in little more than*.

P. 245, l. 13, for *not unpleasant riding* read *not an unpleasant riding*.

P. 246, l. 16, for *southern* read *eastern*.

P. 249, l. 9, for *simper* read *simmer*.

P. 250, l. 10, for *when* read *where*.

P. 252, l. 31, for *Drumnachter* read *Drumuachter*.

P. 256, l. 23, for *resurgitation* read *regurgitation*.

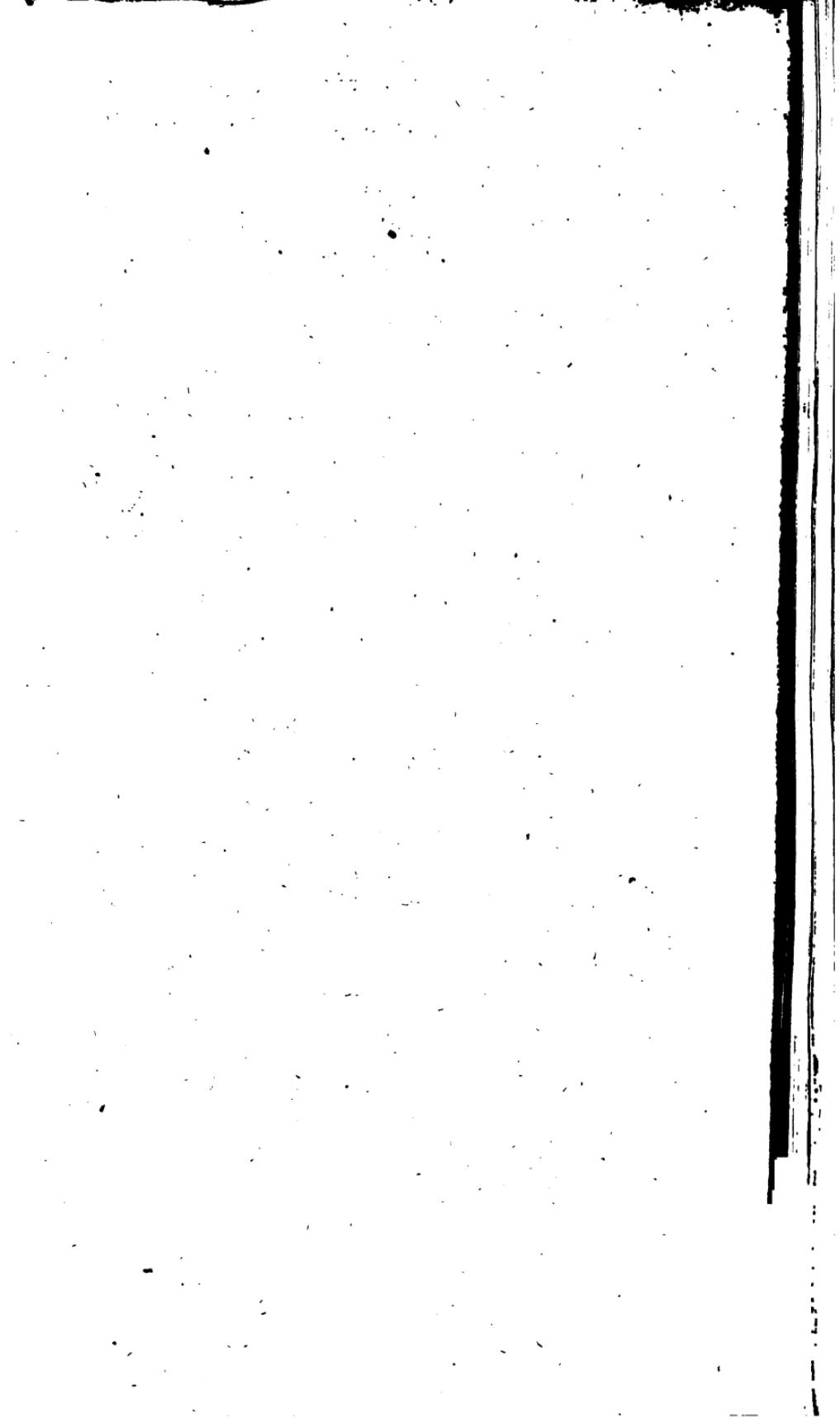
P. 289, l. 35, for *Auchradun* read *Auchnadune*.

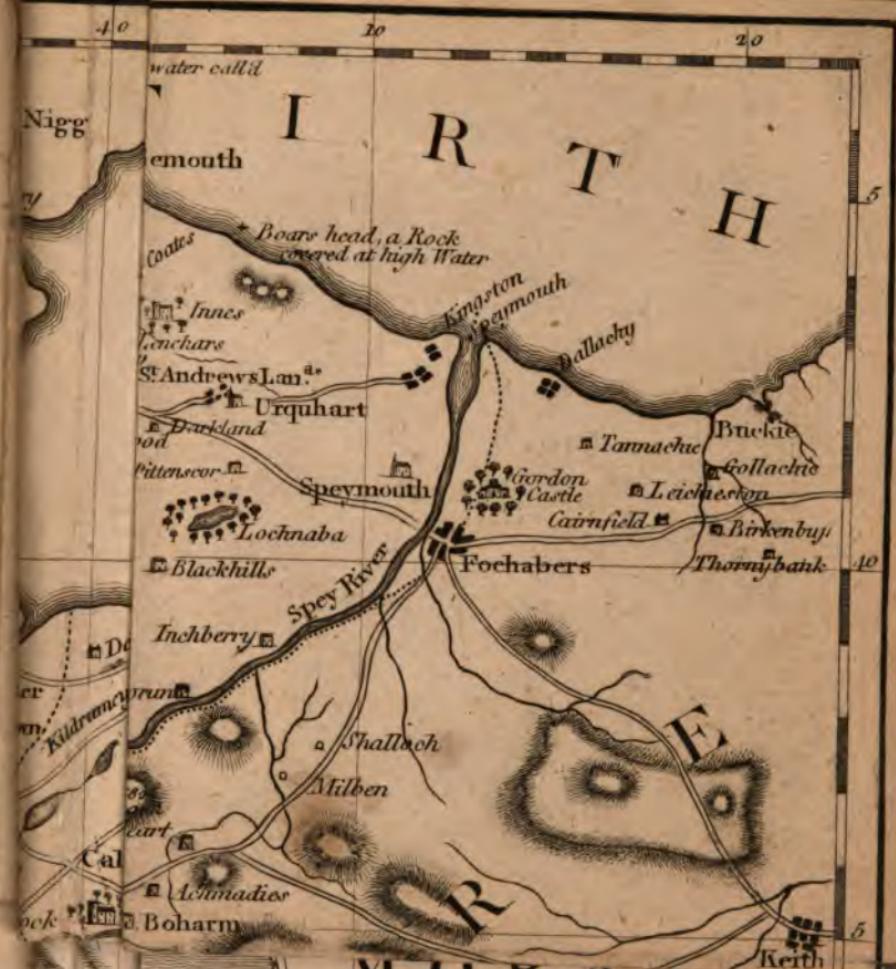
P. 299, l. 25, for *county* read *country*.

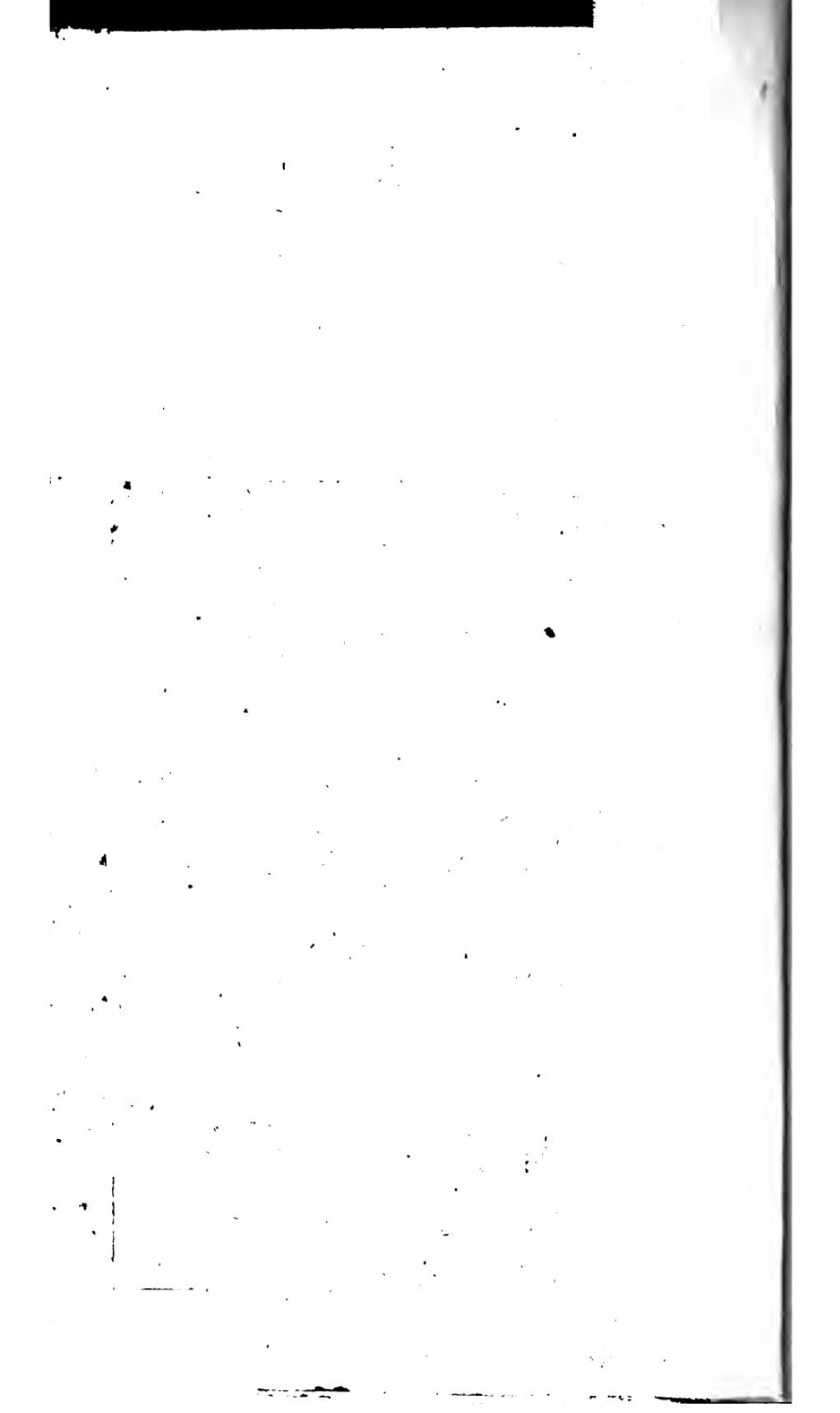
P. 312, l. 1, for *embellished by a handsome battlement within the gate*, read *embellished by a handsome battlement. Within the gate*.

P. 313, l. 23, for *Sampiori* read *Sampieri*.

In many cases particular inquiries were made, and accurate information obtained respecting the population. The statement of the table is not thereby materially affected. In one instance or two, the difference may be observed in the account of the respective parishes.















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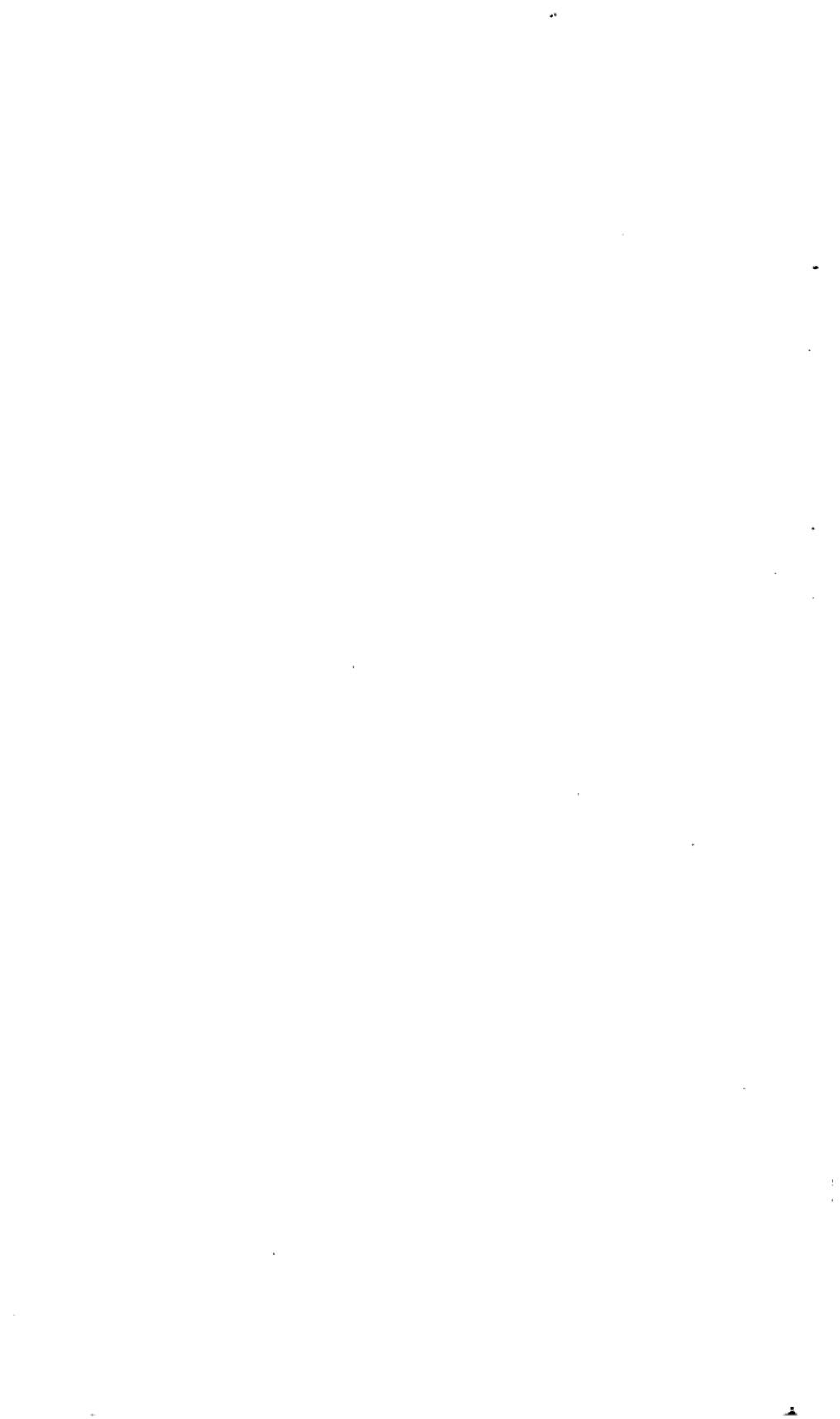


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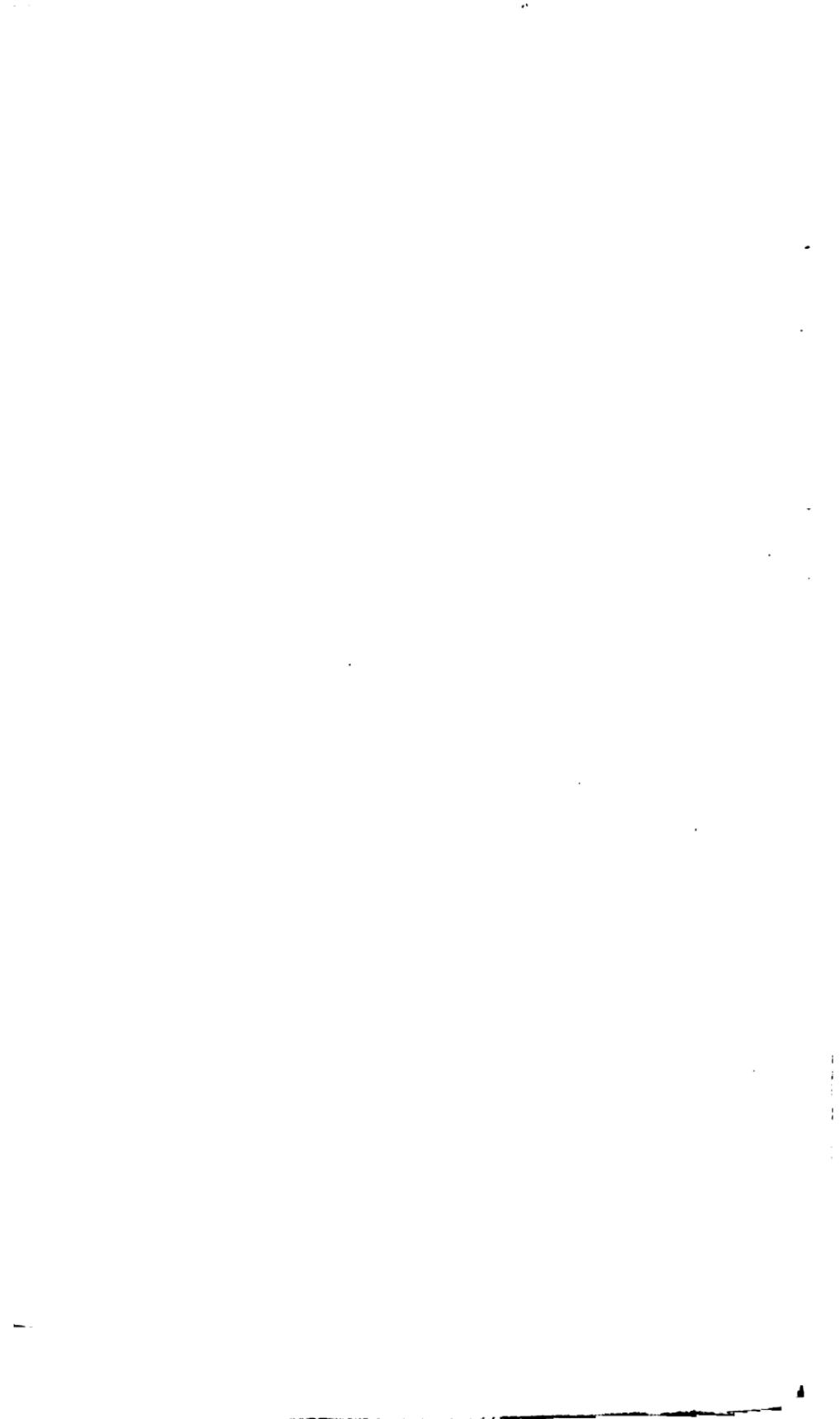
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